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Ginling College
150 Fifth Avenue, N.Y. 11, N.Y.
February 5, 1945

Miss Ruth Chester
Ginling College
Chengtu, Szechwan, China

Dear Ruth:

The enclosed copy of a letter to Dr. Wu is being sent for your special consideration. I realize that Dr. Wu's illness may have made it impossible for her to attend to some of the things that I have asked for in this letter, and I am therefore turning to you.

We do need the faculty and alumnae lists rather badly, and it would be helpful to get that matter of the scholarship from the Woman's College Club of Saranac Lake straightened out. I realize that you have your hands just as full as they can be, and I hesitate to ask one more thing from you, but I would be very grateful indeed for any help that you can give on these matters.

Cordially yours,

CSM:ef
Via China Clipper
Enclosure: Copy of Jan. 23, 1945, letter to Dr. Wu.

No confirmation copy to be sent.

1235

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Ginling College
150 Fifth Avenue
New York 11, N. Y.
May 4, 1945

Dr. Ruth Chester
Ginling College
Chengtou, Szechwan, China

Dear Ruth:

Dr. Wu's arrival. We are all quite excited over Dr. Wu's arrival, and thrilled at the honor paid her in appointing her a delegate to the San Francisco Conference. She was in New York about a day and a half before starting west. This was not nearly long enough, of course, but she has promised to come back after the Conference. I was delighted to see her as well as she seems to be, for I feared she would show the effects of her illness much more than she does. I think she is a bit thin, but she says not. I certainly hope that the work in San Francisco will not be too much for her.

Wu Mao-i. You will be glad to know that we had a cable from Wu Mao-i from Lisbon, saying that she was going directly to India, without the many changes and delays of the route sometimes followed, and that she expected to land early in June at the latest. This is good news indeed. I hope that she will be as fortunate when she gets to India and that she will not be delayed long there. I realize that you do not expect to leave until Dr. Wu returns, but it will be all the better to have Wu Mao-i there promptly so that you and she will have some time together.

Stella Graves is making her plans to return, and is ready to go whenever passage can be secured. However, I fear that will not be very soon. There are very great restrictions on travel just now, and women just don't seem to have any chance at all. Ettie does not plan to start back before the summer of 1946, so there is nothing to be done in her case.

Personnel Committee Minutes. I am enclosing the minutes of the last meeting of the Personnel Committee. As you will see, the Committee is mindful of all of the needs at the College, but finds it very difficult to meet these needs because of the restrictions that the government puts on travel. It seems almost impossible to get a man out to China and definitely impossible to secure passage for a woman.

Miss Mildred Bonnell. In this connection I want to tell you about Miss Mildred Bonnell. She has been assigned as a mass-feeding specialist to go to China with UNRRA to assist the Chinese government in their training program for welfare work. She called on me at the office a few days ago and I had a delightful visit with her. She is definitely interested in the work of the Colleges and would like to be in touch with the faculties interested in Home Economics. She has not yet been able to secure passage. You see, even UNRRA is not powerful to get a woman out under present conditions. However, when she does go, I hope that the College group in Chengtu will keep in touch with her, as I am sure that she would enjoy such contact and I think that it would be mutually beneficial. She will have letters of introduction from us, as well as from other people.

Scholarship for Miss Shen. By now I hope that the scholarship grants from the Episcopal women in New Jersey and in North Carolina are all straightened out. I have written to Dr. Wu and sent a copy of the correspondence to Elsie Priest, telling them that the North Carolina Diocese is supporting Grace Chen, and the New Jersey Diocese is sending money for Miss Shen, Bishop Shen Dz-kao's daughter. Miss Grace Chen is already in direct contact with the North Carolina group, and I think that those arrangements are all clear. The New Jersey group would be most happy to get more personal information about Miss Shen, and they ask particularly that she write directly to them. Please have her write to Miss Marietta E. Atwood, 21 Morven Place, Princeton, N. J., who is the President of the New Jersey Diocese of Episcopal Women. Tell Miss Shen to write just the sort of friendly, personal letter that she would write to a relative, telling about her work at the College and her hopes and plans for future courses. They would like to have such a letter from her in time for their Diocese meeting early in October. I find that our letters are taking at least six weeks, so please see that she starts a letter as soon as ~~she~~ you get this one from me. This group has already raised \$500 and sent it out through their Episcopal treasurer in Kuming, and they are pledging an additional \$450 for the coming year.

1236

May 4, 1945

Annual Meetings. We are all in the midst of preparations for the Annual Meetings which means busy days. I wish Dr. Wu could be with us for the Ginling meeting, but as that is impossible, we plan to have a special session for her when she comes back this way. We have just heard that Dr. Y. P. Mei has arrived in Washington and that he will be here for the meetings. I am sure he will have interesting news from the campus.

Please tell Florence that I deeply appreciate all her good publicity material. It is invaluable to me, and makes the promotional end of my job much simpler. I am going to write to her soon, but not till after Annual Meetings!

We think of all of you constantly and are very proud of the way the College goes forward in spite of all its difficulties. Let us help in any way we can.

With affectionate greetings to all of you,

CSM:ef

Enclosure: Minutes of Personnel Com., Apr. 27, 1945.

Via China Clipper

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Ginling College,
Chengtu, Szechwan, China,
May 30, 1945.

Mrs. W. Plummer Mills,
Ginling College Office,
150 Fifth Avenue,
New York City.

Dear Cornelia:

I have been enjoying your letters to Dr. Wu for some time, and I am sure it is more than time for me to make some sort of reply. The news of our various Ginling people was very welcome and we are glad to know that all seem to be getting along well.

I would like first to straighten out the confusion in regard to the episcopal Scholarships. First in regard to Grace Chen, the money sent by the North Carolina diocese for her was received by Sister Louise and Bishop Chen. It has never been sent to Ginling at all. They are handling this money and Grace is receiving what she needs entirely outside of anything we are distributing. Unfortunately, we did not know at all that she had this special help and therefore, last summer, we decided to divide the money from the New Jersey diocese - the Edith Roberts Fund - between her and Bishop Shen's daughter. Last term Grace Chen, therefore, received \$6,000 from that fund. Now that we know that she is otherwise provided for we have transferred her share of the Edith Roberts money to two other students. One of them is David Yui's daughter, Yui Ching-ming, and the other is Hwang Shu-hwa, whose father is in education work, I believe. This term we are giving \$5,000 to each of them, and \$10,000 (N.C.) to Bishop Shen's daughter. This, with the \$12,000 N.C. we gave out last term, makes a total of \$32,000, and leaves us with about \$16,000 N.C. still in hand from the \$551.10 gold which Mr. Allen remitted to us in two payments of about \$24,000 N.C. each. We shall distribute the balance of this in the fall, and if any more money is sent from this same fund, we can easily make good use of it. But since that is uncertain we thought it best to reserve a little for next fall. I hope that this now clears up all the misunderstandings in regard to these two funds.

Evelyn Walmsley. You will be glad to hear that we have now the first ray of hope that we may be able to get Evelyn Walmsley in here by September. Bill Fern consulted with Embassy people in Chungking recently, and came away with fairly good assurance that if we apply in the middle of the summer, indicating our urgent need for the fall term, they may be able to give her permission to come in. I think the chief problem now is transportation.

Mary Lamberton. You will probably have heard before this reaches you that Miss Lamberton has already left. Quite suddenly, word came that there would be an opportunity around the first of June for all of those waiting for transportation to America to get off, and after that no likelihood of any further sailings for an indefinite period. We felt it was too bad for Miss Lamberton to miss this chance and perhaps be delayed for months when it was already so near the end of the term. I made temporary arrangements for her classes, and she got off last week. We trust that she is getting through in time to make this boat. This transportation problem adds one more uncertainty to the already considerable number about my own furlough plans. I am hoping that by the time Dr. Wu is back and Wu Mao-i is here there may be some change for the better, and that I may still be able to get off in the early fall, but it is certainly a question.

Ministry of Education Competitive Examinations. I am not sure whether Florence has written you recently or not, but I might risk repetition on at least one item. A few weeks ago the Ministry of Education sent a belated report on the competitive exams which they gave three years ago. We had one of the second places in freshman English won by our librarian, who is also a part-time student, and one in the English major exam won by Li Gieh-ling, who graduated in 1943. We are pleased to continue to receive some awards! We have had either one or two each time these examinations have been given, which, in proportion to the size of our student body, is a very good record. The larger institutions usually receive about the same number, but never more than four, so far as I remember. For the last year or two they have not given this type of examination, but they are starting it again this year and the exams are to be given this week. This time it is in a very limited number of subjects and only the San Ming Chu I is open for arts students, so I don't feel as hopeful of our showing - as the competition in that examination will be very great.

1238

May 30, 1945.

Dance Recital. The dance recital which was held on May 19th was a great success in every way. We all feel that Peggy Lin has real creative ability in this line, and that she should have a chance for further study as soon as it can be arranged. I hope that during the coming year arrangements for a fellowship can be made, so that she can go after one more year, if travel conditions permit by that time. I shall leave it for Florence to describe the recital in more detail.

Music Recitals. The first of the senior graduating recitals in the Music department came last evening, and was very enjoyable. Djou Shou-min, although perhaps not technically as accurate as some of our best graduates, has a very artistic way of playing, and I, personally, enjoyed her recital very much. We have two more graduating in music this year, and their recitals are coming in the near future.

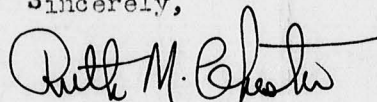
Mrs. Winter. I am enclosing a copy of the letter I wrote a little while ago to Mrs. Winter, and that I think gives all the information in regard to the Winter scholarship. I am hoping to have the two new girls write to Mrs. Winter shortly.

Wu Mao-i. We have heard nothing further from Wu Mao-i, but that does not necessarily mean that she isn't coming along all right. I hope very much that she will arrive in India before very much longer.

Dr. Wu. We are interested to hear that the main part of the San Francisco conference will be over June 4th. I do not know whether there will be any supplementary meetings that will involve Dr. Wu or not. We are very anxious to have her back just as soon as possible, but we do want her to come back rested and in good health. I hope you people in New York will be able to persuade her to take one or two months of complete rest with whatever medical attention she needs. It was the feeling of both the faculty and the Board here that she should not delay her return at all for any business or speaking, but that whatever time she remained in America after the conference be for rest. She cannot possibly get complete rest here, so it seems a good opportunity to get in a bit of real vacation. I hope she does not forget this in the double pressure of the demands that are sure to be made on her in America, and her desire to return quickly.

I shall be looking forward to seeing you and many other Nanking friends when my furlough finally comes, but it is impossible even to guess when that will be. Please give my greetings to any of the old friends that you see.

Sincerely,



Ruth M. Chester

Enc: Copy of letter to Mrs. Winter
RMC/daw

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Ginling College
150 Fifth Avenue
New York 11, N.Y.
July 3, 1945

Dr. Ruth Chester
Ginling College
Chengtou, Szechwan, China

Dear Dr. Chester:

I sent you a letter through Ettie's nephew, and I hope it has reached you promptly. Then just before I left San Francisco, I sent a night letter with my message for the graduating class. I have thought of you many times during this busy period of closing an academic year. I do hope that the weather has not been too hot to bear.

I left San Francisco the morning of the 27th, by air, and reached New York the next morning. The Board of Founders had a meeting that noon. As you know, I was not able to attend the annual meeting in May, so Mrs. Mills arranged for this special meeting so that those members of the Board who were still in the city could meet with me.

The one item of business to consider was the recommendation from the Planning Committee. I presented my opinion and also the conclusion from several meetings with the senior members of the faculty. I also told them that I had written to you and asked for faculty opinion, particularly before my return. I hope that you will arrange for the discussions, as I wrote in my last letter, and have the conclusions from your discussion sent directly to Mrs. Mills. I realize you may not be able to do it right away, and the only important point is that I wish to have such conclusions mailed before I reach Chengtu.

One other point was brought up, but I did not discuss it. This was in regard to the Executive Committee of the Board of Directors. The Board of Founders here naturally would like to have the opinion from the field Board. Even though we have only a small group and some of the members did not know Ginling during our Nanking days, it still is better to ask the Board Executive Committee to have an informal meeting. Perhaps this better be arranged after the Faculty and Alumnae have given consideration and written out their conclusions. If the Board of Directors can take any action, that should be sent to Mrs. Mills. If they are not ready to adopt a formal motion, then they could merely express their opinion to Mrs. Mills.

I was very happy to get your letter of May 18th. Mrs. Mills is also glad to have these facts from you. We have just discussed the situation again, and as she recalled that particular meeting of the Planning Committee, it seemed that it was rather an unfortunate happening. Miss MacKinnon was rather wanting to remove the stigma that Ginling had a lower academic standard than the big universities, and so she called upon one particular person in the audience to make a statement. However, either because he failed to understand her question or because he did not wish to commit himself, he did not answer the point raised. The result was the impression that Ginling's standard was lower than that of Nanking. However, now that we have these facts from you, I shall make copies of parts of your letter and those figures of the student grades, and send them to such members of the Planning Committee as Dr. Van Dusen, Dr. Fairfield and a few others.

In regard to the inspectors from the Ministry of Education, I am very happy to hear that they are expecting to have a more liberal policy in general and that they are likely even to permit private universities to have departments of education. I have already reported this to our Board of Founders. If in the near future, they should change their policy regarding students coming to America, I hope that some of our graduates can arrange to come soon under the new regulation. More and more I feel that we should help those who have been waiting all these years to come when the first opportunity arrives.

This brings me to the question of Miss Hu Shih-tsang. I was terribly disappointed that the Barbour Scholarship Committee did not appoint her. As you know, I applied for her

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Dr. Ruth Chester

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July 3, 1945

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and I even sent a cable to Professor Rufus before I left Chengtu to urge again that a scholarship be granted to her. I had planned to stop over in Ann Arbor and to have a thorough talk with Professor Rufus. However, because the Conference lasted much longer than I at first expected, I had to cut out all the stop-overs on the way east. I shall, however, write to Professor Rufus, so that in the future such things may not happen again. Mrs. Mills has done all she can over here, and I hope the cables she has sent are enough to help Hu Shih-tsang to secure the passport. With the Ministry of Education, my formal letter to the Minister last April should be enough to help her in Chungking. For Hu Shih-tsang's sake I hope very much that she will be able to come, but for our Music Department, I am afraid Catherine will have a difficult time in filling the vacancy.

Both the office and I want to help Stella get back, but I have my serious doubts that there is any possibility for her to get a passage in the near future.

In regard to missionaries leaving China, I am glad that Mary Lamberton was able to get off to India and catch the boat, but for you, I can only say "Sorry". You will understand all I wish to express with that one word.

With best wishes to the family and much love to you,

YFW:ef
Via China Clipper

Yi-fang Wu

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Ginling College
150 Fifth Avenue
New York 11, N.Y.
July 10, 1945

Dr. Ruth Chester
Ginling College
Chengtou, Szechwan, China

Dear Ruth:

Minutes of June 28th meeting. Dr. Wu has just written you giving a report of the meeting of the Board of Founders at which she discussed with us quite frankly the future of Ginling. I shall not attempt to enlarge upon what she has said, but am enclosing a copy of the minutes of that meeting, in which I have made an effort to record her views faithfully if not verbatim. It was most helpful to all of us to have this meeting with Dr. Wu and to get so definitely from her an expression of her attitude on these most vital matters. As you will note from the vote taken after the discussion, the Board reaffirmed its conviction on the importance of the contribution that a woman's college can make in China, and again recorded its intention to support Ginling as such a separate college.

In her letter, Dr. Wu has asked you to get from the Faculty Executive Committee and the Board of Directors in China an equally definite statement in regard to the recommendation of the Planning Committee. I hope that any action taken in China can reach me before the next meeting of the Planning Committee which will be sometime in the fall, probably October.

Speaking completely impersonally and off the record, I would like to say that behind this recommendation, there has been no thought of discrediting the work of Ginling and no attempt to minimize the importance of a separate woman's college. As I have watched the Planning Committee work, I have been struck again and again with the breadth of vision and high ideals and genuine desire to achieve the best for all the colleges that have been revealed in the discussions. Let no one make you believe otherwise. But the problems they face and the grave exigencies of the situation call for definiteness of action, and sometimes recommendations are made that seem drastic. In the last analysis, however, they are only recommendations and in no sense mandatory.

Dr. Wu. It is good to see Dr. Wu again, and of course we are immensely proud of her work in San Francisco. When she first returned to New York, she seemed quite well, but our hot weather has not been too good for her, and she is a little weary now. We have made no engagements for her, except at her own direction. She is to see the doctor soon and after that will know better how to plan the next few weeks. She and Mrs. New will probably go up to Gould Farm for awhile before she starts to England about the first of August. I wish she did not feel that she must take this extra trip, as I fear it may be very tiring for her, but she seems to think she should go.

Church Membership of Rural Girls. I had an inquiry from the Universalist Women not long ago about what church it was that the seven girls at Chung Ho Chang joined, as reported in the story of the Christmas program at the rural station. I asked Dr. Wu, and she was not sure whether it was the Church of Christ in China or the Methodist. Can you tell me? I have promised to try to get this information for the Universalists.

News for Publicity. I hope that some news of college activities is on the way to us, and some pictures! I shall have to begin thinking about our fall publicity shortly after I return from vacation and I would love to have some new material. We are really quite desperately in need of pictures. Do you think you could get some to us?

Statistical Report. I also hope the statistical report of the college for the year 1944-45 is on its way to us. We need it for the report required by the Regents of the State of N.Y.

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July 10, 1945

Stella is now in Michigan visiting a friend before going on to her niece's home in California. She is anxious to get back to Ginling and of course we are doing everything possible to get her out, but I fear that our efforts are not meeting with too much success. You may be sure that she will leave as soon as we can arrange it.

Singapore girls. I am enclosing a copy of the letter I received from Smith about the two girls from Singapore. On June 2nd, I sent you a cable saying that Smith could not accept them, and should have written you at the time but failed to do so. Dr. Wu did not seem to have any knowledge of these girls and could not tell me their names. She suggested that I ask you to give me this information and tell me all you can about them so that if their names ever come before us in the future, the office will be informed.

Mrs. Etta Winter, of Washington, D. C., has just sent in another \$100 gift toward Miss Hwang's expenses. Of course we have acknowledged this, but I hope that Miss Hwang is keeping in touch with Mrs. Winter directly. I also hope that Miss Djang Feng-ya has written to the group in Saranac. They have just sent another gift of \$25.00, which has gone through regular scholarship channels and is available for Miss Djang. The Saranac Club was particularly anxious to be in direct contact with the recipient of their gift, and I am sure a letter direct from China would help to stimulate more support from that source.

Wu Mao-i. We have heard nothing from Wu Mao-i since she left Lisbon, though she should have arrived in India early in June and she promised to send us a cable as soon as she landed. I keep hoping that she got away to China immediately, and that we shall soon be hearing that she is on the campus.

Episcopal Scholarship. I had gotten just this far in my letter when yours of May 30th arrived. I am glad to know that at last we have the matter of the Episcopal scholarships cleared up, and I am especially happy to know that both Miss Shen and Miss Chen are provided for.

Miss Walmsley. Your word about Miss Walmsley is the first bit of encouragement we have had concerning her. I do hope that the next message will be that she is actually in Chengtu.

Letter to Mrs. Winter. Thank you for the copy of your letter to Mrs. Winter. I am sure she will be very glad to know that her gift is helping more than one girl.

Dr. Wu. Dr. Wu has just telephoned me that she has seen two doctors and has yet another conference before her, after which she will probably go into the hospital for a few days. I am as deeply concerned as you that she should get a long and complete rest, but you know she has rather definite ideas of her own. I am really afraid of this trip to England, but there is nothing I can do about it.

You are much in my thoughts these days. I sincerely hope that as soon as Dr. Wu gets back you will be able to start home. I know you need the rest and will be greatly benefited by the change, and I hope nothing will prevent your coming home this fall. We all look forward to seeing you.

Affectionately yours,

CSM:EF

Via China Clipper

Enclosures: Copy of letter from Smith, re Singapore girls

Minutes of: Board, May 11; Executive Com., June 20; Board, June 28

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Ginling College
150 Fifth Avenue
New York 11, N. Y.
July 13, 1945

Dr. Ruth Chester
Ginling College
Chengtou, Szechwan, China

Dear Ruth:

Dr. Wu went into the hospital July 11th for tests and checks and any necessary treatment. She will probably be there for about two weeks, and the doctors' final reports will have definite bearing on her decision about the trip to England. Personally I do not see how she can do it. I think the time would be far more profitably spent in real rest and recuperation in some quiet spot here, and I think the decision of the doctors may support me in this. I will keep you posted.

Wu Mei-lin. I am writing today especially about Wu Mei-lin and the possibility of securing a scholarship for her at the School of Home Economics at Oregon State College. The situation is this. There is a scholarship, known as the International Friendship Scholarship, available to foreign students, affording a year's study in nutrition in the School of Home Economics at Oregon State. The award for the next school year was made to an Indian student who will not be able to come. Wu Suen-i (Mrs. Chang) wrote to Dr. Wu about it, suggesting that Dr. Wu apply to Dean Milam for the scholarship for Wu Mei-lin.

At Dr. Wu's direction, I have just written to Dean Milam, telling her of Wu Mei-lin's interests and qualifications, and asking if there is any chance of her getting the award. I have explained that there is no possibility of her reaching America before February 1946, more probably autumn 1946. I have also explained that her major interest is bacteriology, not necessarily connected with nutrition, but asked that she be given favorable consideration even under these conditions.

When I have Dean Milam's reply I shall send you a cable, but I want this fuller explanation to reach you as well, so that you will have all the facts before you. Dr. Wu asks that you find out whether or not Wu Mei-lin wants a scholarship in nutrition. She may consider this so far away from her major interest that she would not be interested. My cable will also give you the value of the scholarship and the additional amount that she will need for a year in America. You will know what is available for her on that side, and thus have the whole financial picture before you.

If we are given the scholarship, and if Wu Mei-lin does not want it because it is restricted to study in nutrition, Dr. Wu would like you to recommend another girl in the Home Economics field for the award.

I hope this is clear to you. I realize that there are a number of "ifs" and uncertainties in it, and that if the cable arrives before this letter, it will probably be very confusing to you. However, I am sure that you understand that we are trying to fit all the pieces together with the least possible delay, so as to give the girls the best chance of getting here. I sincerely hope that a Ginling girl may be given this award, and that passport and passage may be available for her at the proper time.

Cordially yours,

CSM:ef
Via China Clipper

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RUGH CHESTER.

.CFM 150.

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Ginling College
150 Fifth Avenue
New York 11, N.Y.
July 20, 1945

Miss Ruth Chester
Ginling College
Chengtu, Szechwan, China

Dear Ruth:

I have just sent you a cablegram telling you that Dr. Wu is recovering rapidly from an operation, that she has canceled her trip to England, and that she expects to start back to China about the middle of September. I am sending this letter in a special way, hoping thus to get fuller information to you as quickly as possible.

As you know, Dr. Forkner advised Dr. Wu to see Dr. Thomas Addis in San Francisco, and this she did. Dr. Addis advised her to consult a gynecologist in New York and suggested Dr. Connie Guion. Dr. Wu saw Dr. Guion and learned that probably the minor operation she had expected to have would not be sufficient, but Dr. Guion sent her to Dr. Goff, a surgeon, for further examination. Dr. Goff confirmed Dr. Guion's diagnosis, and strongly recommended a major operation while Dr. Wu is in America. Dr. Katherine Li was also consulted, and agreed with Dr. Guion and Dr. Goff that the growths all knew were present should be removed. Dr. Wu somewhat reluctantly consented to having this major operation now, as she felt that she was committed to the trip to England and also to the earliest possible return to China. However, at the insistence of the doctors she finally agreed, and a week ago they operated, removing one ovary and the entire uterus. The doctors assure us that there was no malignancy and that all growths and roots have been completely removed, and that she is in fine condition. She is making a truly splendid recovery. She just now called me up to say that the doctor had told her to sit up a little while today.

She will have to be in the hospital for another week, and after that she must have at least a month of complete rest. Both doctors agree that she is making such good progress that there is no reason to anticipate a long-drawn out period of convalescence, and they are quite willing for her to plan to return to China about the middle of September. The trip to England has been canceled, of course, as it was not to be considered under the circumstances.

This brings you up to date on one part of Dr. Wu's health problems. The other, and perhaps more serious part, the kidney infection, is receiving very careful attention. The rest in the hospital is very good for this condition also, and the latest tests were most satisfactory. All of the doctors here have said that it is not yet serious, and they all agree that careful diet and a not too strenuous way of life should keep her in quite good condition. I fully realize that both these requirements present real difficulties, but at least it is good to know that the infection is no more serious than it is.

You can really rest your heart about her recovery. When I saw her last night her eyes were clear and bright, she was laughing and joking with all her old spirit, and her mind was working on all sorts of college affairs. She insisted upon giving me directions about letters and cables she wanted sent, and was on the phone again early this morning with more business. It is going to be hard to make her take the complete rest we are always talking about.

You may think it strange that I have not written or cabled this information to you before, but it was Dr. Wu's definite wish that we say nothing about the operation for the first few days. I have just this morning told the Chairman of the Board of Founders, and am sending a copy of this letter to Mrs. Thurston, thus giving her the first word she has had on the matter. This procedure was in accordance with Dr. Wu's wishes.

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Miss Ruth Chester

July 20, 1945

Your cable about Catherine's furlough and getting Stella back as promptly as possible has just come. You may rest assured that both this office and Dr. Wu will do everything possible to expedite Stella's return, but I must warn you not to be too optimistic. In fact the only chance that any of us can see, and that a fairly remote one, is that Dr. Wu may be able to get permission for Stella to accompany her in some special capacity. You face the difficulties of getting passage for people coming this way, and so realize the magnitude of the problem. It is no less at this end of the line, rather more I am afraid, for while the American Government is willing to cooperate in getting American citizens out of China, they are not in the least interested in getting them into China. However, we keep at it all the time, and will get Stella there if it is at all possible.

I am greatly concerned about Catherine and the possibilities your cable suggests. I can only say that I hope she can get home quickly, and that her condition is not serious. You, too, are very much on my heart these days. I know you postponed your furlough because of Dr. Wu's trip to America, and that the fact that you did not leave early this summer may mean a very much greater delay than anyone expected. You may be assured that your sacrifice is deeply appreciated, and that all of us earnestly hope that a fortunate turn of events may make it possible for you to start as soon as Dr. Wu returns. Being inclined to action, I feel frustrated in a situation where prayer and good wishes are about all I have to offer, but at least all of you have those in full measure.

Ever affectionately yours,

CSM:ef

Confirmation Copy via Clipper

Original via Diplomatic Pouch

Carbon Copy: to Mrs. Thurston

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Ginling College
150 Fifth Avenue
New York 11, N. Y.
July 24, 1945

Miss Ruth Chester
Ginling College
Chengtu, Szechwan, China

Dear Ruth:

Wu Mei-lin. On July 13th I wrote you about the possibility of securing a scholarship in nutrition at the Oregon State School of Home Economics. In my letter I told you I was writing to Dean Milam about Wu Mei-lin and asking that she be awarded this scholarship. I have just had Dean Milam's reply, a copy of which I am enclosing for your information. As you see, she is very definite about the time when the scholarship is available. Therefore, if Wu Mei-lin cannot reach America before January 1st, the scholarship would not be offered to her. Since I cannot guarantee that she could get here by January 1st, I am writing to Dean Milam to thank her for the consideration given Wu Mei-lin and declining the scholarship.

I am very sorry that it has worked out this way, and I hope that Miss Wu will not be too greatly disappointed. The only thing that reconciles me to declining this scholarship for her is the fact that Dr. Wu herself was not sure that Miss Wu would want a scholarship limited definitely to the study of nutrition. Perhaps we can get something for her later more in her own field.

Dr. Wu. I am also enclosing a copy of a note I have just received from Dr. Guion. I think it is most encouraging. I felt very much better after having had this word from Dr. Guion. When I saw Dr. Wu yesterday afternoon, she told me that the surgeon was ready to dismiss her as she has made a remarkably quick recovery. She will be in the hospital another day or two for some further tests and will then go with Miss Chien to Gould Farm for a complete rest. Mrs. New will probably be with them for at least part of the time.

Faculty Directory. Thank you for the Ginling College Faculty Directory (1940-45) which has just arrived.

Affectionately yours,

CSM:ef

Enclosures: Copy of letter from Dean Milam.

Copy of letter from Dr. Guion.

Via China Clipper

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Ginling College
Chengtú, China
July 27, 1945

[7]

Dear Cornelia:

I've been meaning to write you for a long time, but there was a long spell when I was terribly busy and then when things finally did let up a bit, I began to take life a little more easily. For the last ten days or so I have mostly not worked much in the afternoon or evening and the mornings have been filled with relatively urgent business, so the letters have waited.

First I must tell you of the visit here of Chaplain Fiske who was here for just a few days. He is in some way connected with the Universalist ladies who are supporting our rural work and as soon as he reached Chengtu he asked me to make arrangements for him to go out there. He managed to get an ambulance to transport us which made it very quick, and Dr. Lung and I went out with him on Wednesday. We saw all the summer work which is being done by the college students who are there for the summer program and he took quite a lot of color pictures. He also gathered samples of the home-made toys they have produced, and bits of handwork done by children and older girls, so he got quite an exhibit together. He is able to send parcels, which civilians have no way of doing. He is also writing an account of the whole visit to send to them. I think it will be worth a lot to them to have that kind of report from someone they know, and I am sure he was very well impressed with the whole thing. I gave him your address and asked if he could arrange to have copies of the color slides and of his account sent to you and he promised to do so. It will probably be some months before they are ready, as he says it is very slow now to get them finished, but I hope you will eventually hear from it. Anyhow they will. I had not been out for nearly two years and was glad to avail myself of the chance to go so much more quickly and comfortably than the usual means. It was market day and that added to the interest of the trip.

Your cable about Dr. Wu was gratefully received. We had been in the dark so long, with no indication of her plans. The papers here said she was going to England, but she didn't mention it in her commencement cable so I didn't know what to think. I am anxious for a letter to tell more about the operation, but am glad it had gone all right, whatever it was, and I judge they expect her to be in good shape by September.

I sent the cable about Catherine's furlough and Graves' return, just on the chance that Dr. Wu might be able to pull some strings if she knew Stella was urgently needed. C. did far too heavy a job last year and was badly worn out by the end of the term. Hyla Watters has been trying to help her and has decided that she is really too tired to stay on, since her furlough is due. I do not feel like going against that advice, so if there is transportation available I think we shall be sending her off in the fall. She is away now, visiting Dr. Gale and I hope getting a real rest. It is possible that if she is a lot better when she comes back, Hyla may change her mind, but I doubt it, for I think she feels she would go down again too fast without a longer rest. Whether there is a Sept. boat or not we cannot find out for sure, though rumor persists in saying so. Whether we can get all the red tape unwound in time to get her on it, if there is one, is also a question, but we'll try.

I think Wu Mou-i is in Chungking and she expects to get here about the first of August. If she does that, I shall be here to receive her which I hope very much to be. I am planning to get off for a little holiday about August 7th or 8th. Djang Hsianglan is away now, getting 3 full weeks at Omei, in addition to travel time, so I hope she is getting a good rest and refreshment. She went with the literature production group and was going to spend mornings on translation for them. After she gets back I shall go to some nearby hills, with Florence. She is going today and I will follow when I can. I hope to get somewhere from 2 to 3 weeks.

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July 27, 1945

I can't settle my furlough plans definitely for several reasons, but am hoping I may be able to get off in November. There may be no boat, and there may be other reasons for holding me here, which I have already discussed with Dr. Wu, but I am hoping and yet not counting too much on it. My sister would be glad to pay the extra cost of air passage, but there seems no way to get the necessary priority for that. I'm afraid neither I nor my work is of "national importance", and I don't want to qualify as a "compassionate case".

I have a report of Hsiung Ya-na's visit to her old village center near Jenshow which I will try to get typed and enclose herewith. It shows that even in that short time something was done which has permanent results.

Before Dorothy Whittington left, we sent off to you the whole faculty lists to date, as accurately as can be done, and also a list of all our present English library books. I wanted to send that earlier, but couldn't find anyone to type it. Dr. Wu thought that if you knew what we have, you could more easily advise people as to what we need.

I've seen the Planning Committee report, but so far no minutes of the Associated Boards meeting itself. I am anxious to know exactly what was done.

I finally got all the tangle about Episcopal scholarships straightened out. Grace Chen's had been sent to Mr. Allen, and then through Sister Louise to her father, and we knew nothing at all about it, so started to divide the other one between her and Shen. Now it is clear and we have given the extra that Shen doesn't need to two other Episcopal girls, so that N.J. money is helping three girls at present, one of them being David Yui's daughter. I asked Shen Sung-wei to write a letter and she told me some time ago that she had done it, so I trust that it arrives in time.

Hu Shih-tsang is in Chungking trying to get her passport, etc., but whether or not she will succeed we do not know. If she does, and Catherine goes too, the Music Dept. will be hard hit, but none of us feel we should ask Shih-tsang to wait, so we'll do the best we can. There are still several serious vacancies on our faculty which I am trying to fill, but not having much luck.

I'm working on the Embassy for a permit for Evelyn Walmsley and waiting almost with baited breath for the reply. I hope we can get her in now, for we need her desperately and it is too absurd for her to be waiting forever in India where they have too many people anyhow. We think Mary Lamberton is well on her way by now, though we have not heard directly from her.

Please share this with Dr. Wu. I'll also write her shortly about other things.

Sincerely yours,

Ruth

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Ginling College
150 Fifth Avenue
New York 11, N.Y.
August 1, 1945

Dr. Ruth Chester
Ginling College
Chengtou, Szechwan, China

Dear Ruth:

Dr. Wu's condition. When I wrote you last I said that Dr. Wu was making excellent progress. This was true at that time, but since then she has had a somewhat rocky time. An infection developed in the wound through the fault of no one, but it necessitated the reopening of a part of the incision. Naturally this has set her back, and while she is now again making definite progress, this has taken a toll of her strength. I have just come from the hospital, where I have had a long talk with her, and I will say frankly that I felt better about her today than I have for the last four or five days. I really hate to write this to you, as I am afraid it will cause you undue anxiety, but I do want you to know the whole situation. She has had a bad time, but it is largely behind her now, and I think we can all rest our hearts.

Partly because of this set-back, but largely because of the character of the operation, it has become quite evident that Dr. Wu will not be in any condition to start back to China in September. Mrs. New, who of course is closest to Dr. Wu in a personal way, has had some long conversations with the Doctor, and I, too, have talked to Dr. Guion a little. The result is that the doctor recommends that Dr. Wu stay here at least until the first of December. Dr. Guion feels that if she takes these months for rest and recuperation, she will then be able to return to the College really well and strong. It is impossible for her to start now, either alone or accompanied by a competent person, and no one of us close to her wants to take the responsibility of seeing her start on such a long and arduous trip. We must therefore face the fact that she will not be at Ginling before about the end of this calendar year.

Additional help for the College. The burden that this puts upon you and Djang Hsiang-lan and the others at the College is very much upon Dr. Wu's heart. I do not think I need to say it is very much on mine as well. We are doing everything possible here to find someone who can go at once to help you in this emergency. However, I must say honestly that we have not yet located anyone, and if we had, the problem of getting her out to China would present grave difficulties.

Dr. Wu therefore wishes me to write to you to say that she gives you and Djang Hsiang-lan full authority to invite anyone available to join the faculty, either permanently or temporarily. She wishes you to have all the assistance that it is possible to secure, and she has complete confidence in your judgment and will heartily support any choice that you make. Of course, she is thinking of someone who could help particularly with the administrative burden, but she wants you to secure assistance in any capacity that it is possible for you to get.

Li Dze-djen. Dr. Wu herself feels that perhaps Li Dze-djen is the one who could most easily relieve Djang Hsiang-lan. She hates even to make the suggestion, because, of course, she knows that Miss Li is on her way to England if she has not already gone. If it has proved impossible for her to get passage to England or to America, Dr. Wu wondered if she would be willing to return to Chengtu to work at Ginling. Dr. Wu wished me to say that this is merely a suggestion. Again, she says, she leaves the whole thing in your hands.

Finances. Both Dr. Wu and I hope that you will not have the financial burden too much upon your heart. If we can find the right person, or indeed anyone who can help out even temporarily, the College can meet the expenses. Dr. Wu's words were, "Tell Ruth not to worry financially." She mentioned the fact that Smith's gift this year was \$7,750 more than their pledge and of course that gives us some leeway.

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Dr. Ruth Chester

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August 1, 1945

Aid for Faculty. Since Dr. Wu has been in the hospital she has been thinking particularly of the health of the faculty in China. She has just said to me that her own weakness in spite of all of the good food she has, makes her all the more anxious to be sure that the faculty get any assistance that it is possible to give them. She therefore wants you to begin again to supply eggs for the faculty and to get the doctor's advice on how best to supplement with the vitamins that are available. She wanted me to tell you that doctors don't always agree. For instance, in her own case, Dr. Addis in California insisted upon reducing her proteins to 40 points a day, whereas Dr. Van Slyke wants to increase the protein intake, since he feels that some of her trouble is due to too little protein. Her concern is that the faculty have all of the good food, protein or otherwise, that we can get for them. She says, "My weakness makes me all the more anxious to have others strong."

I am sending this in a special way, hoping to get it to you as promptly as possible. Again let me say that there is no occasion to worry about Dr. Wu. She is really making progress now, but she will have to have these extra months of rest.

Affectionately yours,

CSM:ef
C.C. via China Clipper

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Original via diplomatic pouch

411 West 114th Street
New York 25, N.Y.
August 16, 1945

517

Dr. Ruth Chester
Ginling College
Chengtou, Szechwan, China

Dear Ruth:

How I wish I were on my way homeward! At last the long-expected V-J Day is here, yet when it actually came we seemed to be unprepared for it. Particularly for me it seems that now we have to face problems both national and for the College, in addition to my personal problems. Since in your letters you always wish to know more about myself, I'll start from there.

My condition. Before the operation the doctor said that after two months' rest, I should be able to take the homeward journey. That meant then at most only a month's delay when I cut off the trip to England. However, after my good record during the first ten days after the operation, some complications set in. First it was the eye infection and then the stitch abscess that brought on a temperature for a little over ten days. Perhaps it is because of this slow recovery that the doctor reconsidered her former decision. She came to talk to me before she went away for her vacation on August 1st and strongly advised me to take three or four months' rest here in America before attempting the long journey home. We sometimes are comforted by somebody else's misfortune. Mrs. Mills told me when I was in the hospital that Dr. Y. P. Mei also had some infection even after he left the hospital and was convalescing at Clifton Springs Sanitarium. So we said it must be either that we brought some germs from China or that we were really run down so that even one single bug started infection.

I was in the hospital for four weeks, short one day. Last Tuesday, August 7th, I came here to this apartment which Mrs. New had the privilege of using when the family went away for their summer vacation. I have been gaining strength gradually, only I still have no ambition for work. Tomorrow Mrs. New, Miss Chien and I are going to Great Barrington, Mass., to a farm for a quiet rest in the country, most likely until the end of September. After I come back I have to attend to my poor nose. The doctor found that it is pretty badly infected and wanted me to attend to it even now. I feel that it may recover more quickly after I build up more strength.

One bit of good news is that after very careful examination, my kidneys have been found in good condition. Dr. Van Slyke, the well-known bio-chemist in the Rockefeller Foundation, said the edema of my legs was really due to deficiency of protein. I will try my best to get well and fully recovered as soon as possible. Then I hope that the doctor may let me start homeward sooner than December 1st.

Your letter of June 14th was received while I was feeling the lowest in the hospital so I just put it aside and I am sorry not to have answered it earlier.

Furloughs for you and Helen Djang. In regard to the furloughs, I am sorry that your most thoughtful consideration has to be discarded because of the changes in the situation, that is, my delay in returning and the earlier ending of the war in the Pacific. I fully agree with you that your furlough and that of Helen should be considered at the same time. I think I understand her reason for considering to take on the Y.W.C.A. project and be off the Ginling salary for a few months upon my return. She is hoping for a regular furlough in this country and that is why she would not wish to have the few months' leave of absence in China to be considered her regular furlough. When I first got to New York I discussed with Mrs. Mills that when the International Education Conference was to be held I wished very much that I could help Helen Djang to be appointed as a delegate to the Conference. At that time I was definitely counting upon my being in Chengtu by September 1st. Now I do not know what the best thing to do is, not only because of my absence, but also because she is in such poor health.

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August 16, 1945

From Mary Lamberton we heard of the news that Li Dze-djen was finally able to fly to England, and I also heard from her that you yourself were terribly tired. I am very sorry then that just when you should be having your short vacation in August, the news of postponing my return must have caused you much anxiety, and the worst thing is the practical impossibility of finding any person to relieve Helen's work as Dean of Women. I remember I mentioned in my last note to you that Helen's health should be given consideration in preference to the care for the girls in the dormitory. I had in mind then that even Hu Ya-lan might be asked to take charge of the thing for a few months. However, now that the big problem is facing every refugee institution, I can see that Helen may feel that she cannot leave for any rest at all. There are bound to be the many conferences among the Presidents as to what to do next. From all this, you can see that I have no definite suggestions to offer in regard to when you should have your furlough and when to give Helen her leave. The only thing I hope is that by the time I get back to Chengtu, the conditions of transportation may be improved enough so that you may be able to start homeward earlier than next summer. If not, then I agree with you it is more efficient for you to stay through the year and then take your regular furlough by next summer.

Miss Graves. After your cable was received in regard to the return of Miss Graves, Mrs. Mills and I have tried to do more for her. In fact, Mr. Evans and Mrs. Mills had done all they could in pushing for the thing even before your cable came. I have also written to our Ambassador to see if he can help any. However, now with the end of the war, there may be some change in the situation. Even if we cannot say how soon Miss Graves may be able to start homeward, it seems, however, that it will not need necessarily to wait for another whole year, as we first feared. I hope also that with the end of the war, at least psychologically, Catherine may feel a little bit relieved in knowing that Stella may be back in the not-too-distant future.

Harriet Whitmer. I have received a letter from Harriet Whitmer, expressing her wish to finish her last term at Ginling. You may remember that the Board of Directors had decided that the College would invite her back when we would be returning to Nanking. Now that she is able to serve only one more term before time for retirement, I certainly feel that we should invite her back. I shall be taking this question up with Mrs. Mills and others in the Methodist Board when they are back after their summer vacations. Perhaps we should arrange for her to go straight to Nanking as soon as it becomes possible for missionaries to return to the eastern coast of China.

Scholarships for Alumnae and Faculty. I agree with you that Peggy Lin should be given the opportunity of graduate work in her own field. In fact, I have already asked Ettie to make inquiries in regard to a scholarship at Wisconsin, where Ettie is attending the summer school. As you said, this will be for the year 1946-47 anyway, and there will be time to complete this process during the fall and winter.

In regard to Hsiung Ya-na, both Mrs. Mills and I have her in mind and we shall try our best to get a scholarship for her for 1946-47. I did not do much right after my arrival here because of the situation of travel.

The other person I wish to ask your opinion about is Miss Pan Yao-tsuen. Do you think we should try to apply for a fellowship for her at Smith? As you remember, through your recommendation Chen I-chen got a fellowship at Smith and she will be there on this fellowship during the coming college year. But it seems to me, if we wish to help Miss Pan we could recommend her from the College as the recipient of the fellowship at Smith. I realize at the same time that the location for her study must be considered with regard to where Hu Shih-tsang may be. If she is still to come to Juilliard for the coming year, then Miss Pan will certainly prefer to be in the East. If, however, the Barbour Scholarship Committee should be in a position to grant more scholarships during 1947-48 and there should be the possibility for Ginling to secure two, then both Hu Shih-tsang and Miss Pan may wish to be there. I hope that Chen Yu-tsing will be able to get the scholarship from the British Council.

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August 16, 1945

From Mrs. Mills' correspondence you have heard how we tried to get a scholarship at Oregon for Wu Mei-lin. However, it may surprise you that I should have thought of Wu Mei-lin in connection with a scholarship in home economics in the field of nutrition. The explanation is this. Wu Suen-i wrote to me about this vacancy and suggested Wu Mei-lin. Since I was familiar with the great disappointment to Wu Mei-lin because of the application for Chen Yu-tsing to go to England, I thought I must do what I could for Wu Mei-lin. However, the last word from Dean Milam is that the original appointee, an Indian girl, is now able to come and receive this scholarship, so the question has to be dropped altogether anyway. I am afraid our Biology Department will be in a very bad fix if Yu-tsing does go to England and Wu Mei-lin is in a disgruntled mood. Now you have told me that this Dr. Wu in Hunning did not accept your invitation. The only thing I can say is whatever you are able to do, or not to do, you have my full sympathy and full support.

Candidates. Mrs. Mills has found a very fine candidate for the English Department, Miss Ruth Shirley Swenson. Mrs. Mills will keep the process of getting recommendations going and also get the action of the Personnel Committee. We hope that Miss Swenson will be able to sail by next summer.

In regard to physical education, there have been two American-born Chinese, with whom Mrs. Mills had some correspondence, but neither was ready to go this year. We shall follow them up and hope that we can have one definitely settled to come by next summer.

When I have more strength, I shall write to Miss Traudley to see if she is still interested in spending a sabbatical year at Ginling. If it is at all possible, I certainly hope she can come a year from now.

Mrs. New and I are approaching a fine young man as a possible comptroller. I presume you know what office I have in mind, that is "dzung-wu dzu ren", the position which is now held by my Chinese secretary. He himself did not wish to continue in that office, and both you and I know, for the College, it is better to find a real capable and efficient man for this office. This young man is interested in our offer himself, but he has, first of all, to get in touch with his own college authority. Because of this, I am not telling you his name or his own alma mater. If he should be able to come, I would even depend on him to serve as Dean of Administration.

A further word in regard to Li Gwan-yuen. From Helen's letter I have learned that the inspectors from the Ministry of Education have said that the party organizations are to be withdrawn from the colleges and schools. With this, I hope that the requirement that the Dean of Students be a party member may also be cancelled. I expect to see Gwan-yuen again after she comes to the city and I shall make another effort in asking her to come to help at the College, at least for an experimental period of three years.

Plans for the future. Now that V-J Day is already here, we cannot help thinking about the return to Nanking. Under the present circumstances, the only thing to do is to follow Dr. Decker's advice to the Presidents last March. As you remember, he told us that the Associated Boards have come to the conclusion that right after the war ends, the Colleges better make temporary plans for carrying on for a while before making long-range plans. This was because nobody could tell beforehand what the conditions of the campuses might be nor could the Board of Directors in China make any definite decision until the members could get together for a real full meeting. From this, it seems then that it is likely that Ginling and Nanking may plan to move back to our own campuses and just try to carry on. With us, the question is in what condition the buildings may be left by the Japanese military people. Because of this, it seems to me that Ginling should pay attention to the application for grants from our Government for the repairing of the buildings and the replacing of equipment. Everybody knows that our buildings were occupied and used by the enemy, so we can surely expect to get grants from the reparations. Furthermore, the UNRRA has included an

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August 16, 1945

item for the replacing of equipment of educational institutions, at least that was the idea that Dr. T. F. Tsiang succeeded in putting in when he was here attending the first UNRRA meeting. Also we should get in touch with Mr. Plumer Mills in Chungking, who will surely be in close touch with the American Embassy. He can help us to decide whether we should put in claims for damage to the American Embassy. Of course, we cannot tell how soon the Japanese will leave those buildings and who will receive the buildings from the Japanese. However, it seems to me that as soon as telegraph service is opened, the College could send word to Mrs. Chen Hwang Li-ming, Blanche Wu, and Mrs. Tsen to see how they might help right there in Nanking. But if you do any telegraphing or letter-writing, you must be sure to send them funds as soon as possible. Even last year I was talking to Miss Priest and wanted to send them money to help tide them over, but she advised against doing such things that might cause them trouble locally there. But now when the locality comes under Chinese control, we must arrange to send funds to them.

The other problem which is common to the refugee colleges in general is the possibility of applying to the Ministry of Education for subsidy for moving back to our own campuses. I know nothing definite can happen right away, and the other Presidents will be thinking about this also. I mention it here just because I feel it is one of the things the Ministry may be ready to do, and if so, the earlier it is applied for, the better. There are certainly many, many problems to be faced and that is why I said I wish I were already on my way home. If there should be things which you think the College office here or I myself can do, please do not hesitate in writing or cabling. I expect to be getting better and should be able to do a wee bit over here.

The real concern which cannot be put aside is the question of Yen-an. I am waiting anxiously to know the terms of the agreement signed in Moscow, and I do hope that that agreement may help to settle this internal problem for the time-being at least. It seems to me that even if no serious question comes up from this angle, it will take a while for the colleges to be able to move, and so most likely the College will have to carry on in Chengtu for one term, if not for the whole of next year.

My salary and Faculty Health. One small item I wish to mention here is in regard to my salary starting from July. Now since I am having complete rest and doing nothing, I do not wish to draw my salary as I have some money left from what I received from my Government. Ever since the doctor said I was so run down, I think so many times of our faculty and students, so I wish to have my salary, beginning from July at least through September, to be drawn and used for supplementary nutrition for the faculty. It seems to me so absolutely necessary to at least help as much as we can to keep up the physical strength of the faculty through this last refugee year. Please do not feel hesitant about this, and I am not doing this just as a gesture. I do see the real importance of the health question of our faculty and this is the least bit I can do personally for this big problem, and I wish you would help me to carry it out.

Now in regard to yourself and Catherine Sutherland, I do want to beg both of you to take more regular meals with some missionary family. When I saw how well Mary Lamberton looked, I knew that her last few months with the West China ladies had contributed to her good condition. So I do hope both of you will give serious attention to this physical need.

This is the second of the legal holidays in New York. Mrs. Foster, Mrs. Mills' secretary, is so good to come out to this apartment so that I can send you this letter before I go away to the country and I think it is long enough and I must quit.

With love and gratitude and best wishes to the whole family,

Affectionately yours,

YFW:ef
c.c. via China Clipper

Wi-fang Wu

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FAST



DIRECT



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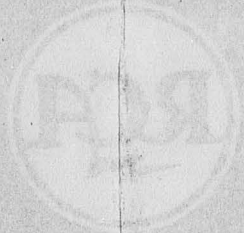
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RCA COMMUNICATIONS INC.



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"Via RCA"
(Sept 5, 1945)

RUTH CHESTER

CHENGTU (China)

WUYIFANG IMPROVING BUT DOCTORS RECOMMEND REMAIN AMERICA TILL
DECEMBER.

CORNELIA MILLS

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Sender's Name and Address
(Not to be transmitted)

Associated Boards for Christian Colleges in China, 150 Fifth Ave.

N.Y.C.
Form 100-25-TA 583 B

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Ginling College
150 Fifth Avenue
New York 11, N.Y.
September 10, 1945

Miss Ruth Chester
Ginling College
Chengtou, Szechwan, China

Dear Ruth:

Thank you for your letter of July 27th which was waiting for me when I returned to the office after vacation. We have sent copies of it and of the report by Hsiung Ya-na to Dr. Wu as you requested. I am eagerly looking forward to your next letter since it will tell us of the celebrations in Chengtu on V-J Day. Our joy and thankfulness are too deep for words. To know that there is no longer war in the world is the most blessed piece of news that any of us has heard for eight long years. Whatever immediate effect it has upon the plans of the College, it cannot fail to bring renewed strength to all of you as you realize that we are indeed at last in a peaceful world.

Furloughs and Miss Graves' return. On August 16th Dr. Wu wrote to you about a number of College matters that you refer to in your letter to me. Your furlough, for instance, and Catherine's, and Stella's return. I am afraid that I have not very much to add to what she has said, especially about Stella. It is still not possible to secure passports and passage easily and while we are making every effort to get her off immediately, I cannot at this time tell you exactly when she will leave. I do hope that it is going to be possible for you to get to America before too many more months. I know you need the rest and change, and I hope that it is going to work out satisfactorily.

Dr. Wu's return. Your cable asking about the date of Dr. Wu's return reached the office the day before I returned from vacation. I sent you an answer as soon as I got back to the office, and I hope that it reached you promptly. Dr. Wu's letter of August 16th had prepared you, I hope, for the fact that she would not be returning before early winter. This is definitely the doctor's recommendation and seems the only wise and possible course of action under the conditions of Dr. Wu's health. The date I gave you, that is approximately the first of December, was what Dr. Wu and I had agreed upon after consultation with the doctor the first of August. Of course, if Dr. Wu improves sufficiently, she may be able to leave earlier. A letter from her this morning, written from Great Barrington, Mass., seems to indicate that she is now hoping to get away in November.

Hu Shih-tsang. Thank you for your message letting me know that Hu Shih-tsang cannot arrive in time for the fall semester. I hope that she can get here for the second part of the year and that Juilliard will make the scholarship available to her. I have written to Dr. Wedge at Juilliard, telling him that Miss Hu cannot get here for this semester and asking that he consider giving her the same scholarship for the next term. I have also notified the Sutherlands.

Library and Faculty Lists. In a previous letter I have acknowledged the receipt of the list of library books and also of the faculty lists. I am very grateful to you for getting these to me. They are most valuable to us for our records here. The library list will be helpful as we plan to secure and send books out for the rehabilitation of Ginling's library.

Planning Committee Report and Associated Boards Minutes. I am sure that by now you have seen a copy of the minutes of the Associated Boards meeting. They left this office on June 12th, and you probably received a copy shortly after you wrote your letter on July 27th. I am glad that you have had a copy of the Planning Committee's report. As I wrote you earlier in the summer, the Planning Committee's report is in no sense mandatory. It represents the best thinking of a group in America, but that group is the first to say that it wishes the final decision for all actions to be in the hands of those in authority in China.

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September 10, 1945

Yang Ging-chung and Alice Chang. As Dr. Wu has already written you, Mary Lamberton arrived on the Gripsholm, looking very fit indeed. I had a brief visit with her and she also saw Dr. Wu. Yang Ging-chung is here, too, and also Alice Chang. They were both in my office a few days ago. Miss Yang is not quite certain what she will be doing this year. She is considering a teaching fellowship at Smith rather than going to Michigan as she had at first planned. I believe the main reason for this change is that, as a married woman, she is not eligible for a Barbour scholarship. She says that her funds are so low that she must go where she can have some financial aid. Miss Chang had planned to enter the School of Journalism at Columbia, but has been told that they already have too many applicants, and so she is casting about for some other plan. She, too, says that she needs to earn her way. I think what she would most like would be a part-time job that would pay her enough to live on and would still allow her some free time for study. Since she is an American citizen and perfectly at home in the language, she does not seem to need as much help as some of these other girls and she has not been as closely in touch with the office.

Djang Shui-gi Has decided not to go to Michigan and is now making application at Cornell. She had things pretty well lined up when I heard from her last, and I hope that by now she is all set for entrance there.

Wu Mao-i and Evelyn Walmsley. I am glad to know that Wu Mao-i is at last in China. She was in Chungking when you wrote, but I assume that by now she is at Ginling. I am sure she will be a great source of strength to the College. I hope that you were successful in getting permission for Evelyn Walmsley to enter China. I know how desperately you need her help and I shall be most happy to hear that she is really with you.

Ruth Van Kirk and Dju Yu-bao were both on the Gripsholm that arrived early in August. I have not seen either one of them or been in direct communication with them, so have no news to offer. Miss Van Kirk tried to get in touch with Dr. Wu, but a series of events interfered. Dju Yu-bao, I understand, went more or less directly to Washington, and so far we have not heard from her. Perhaps Dr. Wu Has been in touch with her.

Reports from Miss Hsiung and Miss Kirk. Thank you for the report from Hsiung Ya-na on the developments at Jenshow. It is indeed good to know that even in the short time the girls were working there, they were able to get so much started that the local people have been able to carry on. The reports and plans that Florence sent me for the Universalist Women are most interesting, and I am sure will be very valuable to that group as they seek to raise their \$3,000 for Ginling.

Episcopal Scholarship. I am glad to know that the matter of scholarships from Episcopalian groups is at last straightened out. I have not heard from the New Jersey women recently, so do not know whether they have received Shen Sung-wei's letter or not. I am sure that they will be happy to know that their money is sufficient to help more than one girl, and they will also be pleased to know that the daughter of such a man as David Yui is receiving their help.

Gift from Crescent Ave. Church. We have recently had a special gift of \$250 from the Crescent Avenue Presbyterian Church in Plainfield, N. J., for the Child Welfare work at Ginling College. This is included in our current budget funds and will be transmitted to the College in the regular way. I do not think that it is meant to be used for the Child Welfare Training Program, but rather for some work for children that Ginling is doing. If the Chung Ho Chang work seems the best place to use it, I presume that would meet the specifications of the gift.

Packages of Books. I wrote you earlier in the summer that we would select a few books from each of the lists sent and get them out to you as soon as possible. I am wondering now if this is a wise plan. Even under the best of circumstances, such packages would hardly

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Miss Ruth Chester

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September 10, 1945

reach you Before the first of January. By that time you will probably be thinking of the best way to pack what you have to ship to Nanking. It therefore hardly seems best to increase your problems by sending more packages that may not reach you in time to be of any service, only in time to be packed to go down river. I would therefore suggest that as soon as possible, these books be collected here and sent into Nanking when the way opens.

We are rejoicing with you that this is the last year for the college to be a refugee. How wonderful it will be to return to Nanking and begin a normal program again.

Affectionately yours,

CSM:ef
Via China Clipper
c.c. via next clipper

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Ginling College
Chengtou, China
Sept. 21, 1945

Mrs. W. P. Mills
Secretary for G.C.
Associated Boards of Christian Colleges in China
150 Fifth Ave, New York City
U.S.A.

Rec'd 10/19/45

Dear Mrs. Mills,

upon learning the recommendations of the Planning Committee to the Associated Boards for Christian Colleges in China regarding the rehabilitation and coordination program for the Christian colleges in China, we, the alumnae on the faculty of Ginling College, wish to take this liberty to express our opinion on the importance of maintaining independent Christian colleges for women in China as well as our concern over the future of Ginling. We represent a group of alumnae from the classes of 1920 to 1945. As a group we have followed through practically the whole history of the development of Christian higher education for women in China and, being on the faculty at present, should be intimate with the present situation of the college. We sincerely wish that the voice we are raising now may reach you in time to be of some use for your reference.

The importance of Christian leadership in China does not need any stressing. We need women as well as men leaders. It is our belief and conviction that women leaders can be best developed in independent institutions for women. In spite of the fact that we are following the principle of maintaining equality between men and women our social customs are such that women can get decidedly more opportunities for development when placed among women. We see this as a very important reason of having independent colleges for women.

To have independent Christian colleges for women is to answer the call for such a need. Many parents who based their judgment on their own experience and observation have chosen to send their daughters to smaller women's colleges rather than the larger universities. These parents have often expressed their appreciation for provisions of the particular type of education they so desired their daughters to receive.

In an independent institution for women the type of courses most fitted for women receives better attention, hence better chance of development. In other words, women students whose interest are in such fields find a fairer opportunity in such institutions.

Guidance of students in character building is undoubtedly a very important phase of the responsibilities of the faculty. From our experience we find that in an independent college for women the faculty can take up those responsibilities in the most effective ways.

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To our mind an affiliated system can not be practically carried out to make it efficient. Colleges for women which have been affiliated in the past have gone through a history of being first affiliated and then combined and dissolved. The result is the complete disappearance of such institutions. We see very clearly the need of independent colleges for women and we also see that an affiliated system can not be a substitute.

It is not just on any kind of Christian colleges for women that we are relying for opportunities to develop women leaders. The reliance is on the kind which is of highest standing and well provides real Christian atmosphere in which students may be inspired with the best spirit of service. On this ground besides expressing our opinion on the need of having independent Christian colleges for women we would like to suggest that consideration be given for development of the Christian colleges for women in China now in existence into universities of highest standing of their kind.

We are immensely concerned over the future of our alma mater. We would like to see it developed to the highest in all respects. Judging from our past we have the confidence that Ginling will have a large place in serving China as well as the cause of international good will. During the war period we have been able to make a study of the standing of our students as compared with those of the other institutions. The following is a very brief summary of the honors obtained by the Ginling students during the war period.

1. In the competitive examination in major fields given by the Ministry of Education during 1940-1942 Ginling students obtained two first and three second honors, a number which is not less but proportionally much more than that obtained by the other institutions on the same campus.

2. In the oratory contests sponsored by the eight universities in Chengtu in 1944 Ginling students obtained first individual and group honors for both the Chinese and the English.

3. Of the seven essay contests Ginling students participated in 1940-1944 they obtained five first honors and two third honors.

4. In the three annual athletic meets of women students of eight universities in Chengtu during 1940-1943 Ginling students obtained all the first group honors.

5. The spirit of service of Ginling students has often been very much appreciated. In the Chengtu Christian Students' Association formed by twelve institutions in 1940 Ginling students have served in all the ten terms as eight chairman, and five vice chairman.

We have maintained this standard against all sorts of difficulties and handicaps. Both the faculty and students have worked to their best under the circumstances. Although the war conditions have prevented us from maintaining the college as we wish it would

be what has been accomplished gives us assurance that as soon as the situation may be restored we will again be able to lead the college on its normal path of development.

The college is young as compared with the other institutions and the number of alumnae is still much smaller than those of the other institutions. We have not, however, let this small number prevent us from making Ginling a source of service and inspiration. The positions held by our alumnae have always been well distributed. At present the record of the alumnae is as follows:

	Percentage
Editors and writers	1.5
Rural service workers	2.7
Graduate students at present	4.2
High school principals	4.7
Doctors and nurses	5.1
Social service workers	6.2
In government positions	7.9
College teaching and administrative staff.....	11.8
Married (not employed)	16.7
High school teachers	27.8
Deceased.....	2.6
Addresses unknown due to war	8.9

Through its alumnae Ginling has served the non-christian as well as the Christian centers in China. Its spirit is in the colleges, schools, homes and other types of institutions. Through its alumnae the college is well known in the country. At the end of every academic year the number of positions open has often been several times more than the number of the graduates. There have often been particular demands for Ginling graduates. This is a very evident indication that Ginling is an outstanding and necessary institution in its place.

During war time Chinese showing interest in Ginling by presenting memorial endowments for scholarships are increasing. They represent faculty, alumnae, friends of the college and also some orgainzations and companies. The endowments may be considered small but they very well reflect the appreciation of the contribution of the college.

We strongly believe that Ginling College has a place, a very significant one, in the Christian education program in China. Independent institution for women are so few in China at present. Those in existence must be preserved to satisfy the demand of those who desire independent higher Christian institution for women. We do not wish to disappoint those parents and future students who especially desire this type of educational system.

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Our desire is not only to keep Ginling in existence. We wish to see it developed to fit into this new period of construction in China. We wish to see it expanded into an university scale which would furnish opportunities for more students of larger variety of interests. Then it would provide more chance for learning through sharing among fellow students. We do not propose to give any detailed suggestions here as to how this expansion may be carried out. Our concern here is rather on the general policy upon which any adjustments or alterations must be made.

Finally we would like to take this opportunity to express our deep appreciation to our American friends who have helped in establishing the Christian colleges in China. To these friends we wish to pledge our efforts to endeavor to bring about in the Christian way better understanding and closer cooperation of all peoples.

With eager anticipation to your consideration of our points of view, we remain

Sincerely Yours,

Shao Bas Su-mien '35	Shao Bas Su-mien '35	Wu Meiling '38
Lu Ji-mou '43	Lu Ji-mou '43	Tsui Yuh-dji '34
Hu Shih-tang '34	Hu Shih-tang '34	Hsung Ya-nan '41
Chen Shih-dzung '36	Chen Shih-dzung '36	Wu Mao-i '28
Lin Pei-fer '43	Lin Pei-fer '43	Tseo Bing-i '42
Peng Hung-fu '43	Peng Hung-fu '43	Shan Yuen-djen '45
Hwang Yu Hwa '42	Hwang Yu Hwa '42	Shan Tsing-yung '43
Hsu Ya Lan '36	Hsu Ya Lan '36	Hwang Yih-chang
Wen Yim-twen '39	Wen Yim-twen '39	Liu En-lan '25
	Chang Hsiang-lan '28	
	Tang Ming-sin '28	
	Shen Tzu-yung '29	
	Chen C. Chen '31	
	Dia Ho-djen '38	
	Tan Gao-tsien '41	
	Chang Tsai-i '42	
	Wu Deh-hwa '45	
	Chen Yü-ching '41	
	Hsia Tzu-an '44	
	Siao Ding-yung '39	
	Liu Hsi-meng '44	

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From a letter from Miss Ruth Chester, Ginling College, Chengtu,
to Mrs. W. Plumer Mills in the Ginling College Office.

Dated
9/27/45

"Letters which were held up for some time have been coming in fast in the last two or three weeks so I think we must be pretty well caught up by now. It was the long silence which left us so uncertain about Dr. Wu and her plans that made me send the cable. Actually your letters arrived before the answer to the cable, but I was glad to know that the situation was still the same. Because of these delays also, I did not know until about ten days ago that there was any reason for hurry in having the various meetings that you and Dr. Wu asked for, and sending in the reports. In that letter you say you would like them in time for a meeting which might be in October. I am sorry, but I am afraid there is no hope of their reaching you by that time. Dr. Wu earlier had only said to get them off before her return so I thought there was no hurry. I have put them in as fast as possible and some of the reports are already on their way. The alumnae faculty had already started their discussions before I returned from my vacation, and also the alumnae who are not on the faculty. They are sending their reports directly and at least the former is already on the way. Last week I held two other meetings: the faculty who are not Ginling graduates, and the foreign faculty. Mr. Liu wrote up the report of the former meeting and I think has sent it to you already. There were 10 present, 7 of them men and I was interested that none of them showed the slightest question as to the importance of keeping Ginling independent. In fact some of them have very expansive ideas of what we should become, but we needn't worry about that! Eva has written a summary of the main points we brought out in the foreign group meeting and I will enclose them in this letter. I think it should be mentioned that we were talking on the supposition that only Ginling and the U. of N. are involved. If there should be a larger federation of some sort in Nanking, including some of the other East China Institutions, I think the feeling of our group would be different. I am quite sure very few would want to stand outside of such a large federation, though I personally have some reservations in regard to that whole idea. I think it will be academically more efficient, a little less expensive (not much I believe) and will lose definitely on the Christian side and the more general aspect of the building of character and personality. It would be very much easier for us to maintain our identity and a certain degree of independence if we were part of a larger group than if it was just the two institutions combining. That path leads to absorption in the end with a struggle between, I think. Personally what I would most like to see would be two or more really independent institutions, voluntarily cooperating in such a way as to reduce overlapping on small advanced classes, and duplication of equipment which is used only by small numbers, etc. but it doesn't look as if the prospects are very good on either side for this sort of thing. There are prejudices both ways, and real grievances both ways probably. The psychological situation has been definitely worsened in the last three months or so, by widespread and continuous reports from U. of N. students, alumnae and faculty that we are to be combined and absorbed - usually said in a rather gleeful manner which makes our alumnae faculty furious. They seem to think it is all settled and enjoy taunting us with it. That has naturally made our group react to an excessive spirit of independence where they are not willing to have any slightest relation at all. It is most unfortunate and I will try to lower the temperature when I can, but I can't do much. These things are not said to me, of course, so I can't answer them back as I'd like to. This is unimportant in itself, but important in its psychological effect. I cannot believe it is an accident, because it is so widespread, but why this report has been spread is more than I know. It has even come back to me from Nanking, where some U.N. person who has recently gone down, an alumnus from Chungking I think but am not quite sure, told our group there that it was all settled that way and they wrote in agitation to know if it were true, because if it was, they would do nothing at all about buildings, etc! This is more or less confidential, but it seems to me that one or two people should know it in case something develops which makes our group look too uncooperative in spirit.

"Yesterday afternoon I held a meeting of the Chengtu Ex. Com. of the Board of Directors to discuss this question and Anna Will be sending you a letter reporting the discussion so I will not go into that. I think that completes the list and I hope they will all reach you without undue delay."

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Ginling, Oct. 25, 1945.

Dear Cornelia:

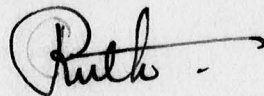
At the Council of Higher Education meeting a couple of weeks ago it was decided not to discuss in detail the recommendations of the Chinese planning committee for individual institutions, but to forward the whole report to N.Y. and London and ask the institutions to make their own comments directly. I have therefore been working on the comments which we wish to make, and am enclosing them herewith. I want to add a little more about the way in which this report was drawn up. After the meetings I first wrote a rough draft and circulated it to the members of the executive committee of the faculty and to several others, asking for their suggestions. In addition I reported to a meeting of the whole faculty the main points in the plan of the Chinese planning commission and the main points in our proposed reply, asking them to make any further suggestions to me, and also making it possible for anyone who wanted to see the report and also our answer. Then I rewrote it incorporating quite a number of suggestions made by various people and the members of the executive committee read the final version this afternoon. I think it is therefore quite representative of our faculty opinion. In addition I have talked with other members of the faculty informally and know that their point of view is the same. Will you kindly see that it gets to the hands of the persons who most need to see it? I am also sending a copy to London.

I want to get this into the mail this afternoon as the weekly plane to Chungking goes tomorrow and it will be much quicker if it gets on that. I haven't time therefore to write much other news. We have quite a bit more news from Nanking and on the whole it is better than we feared it might be, though it has many bad spots. I will get a full report off to you just as soon as I can. This afternoon the executive committee voted definitely that I should try to go to N. for a short visit as soon as possible. I have already begun work on the question of transportation, and if I succeed in getting it will go off whenever I can. I aim to stay about two weeks, if possible.

I hope this material gets through quickly and will be of some help. I do feel very strongly that the matter should not be finally decided in the next few weeks.

We enjoyed seeing Plummer here last week. Our Nanking crowd is growing, but we're all eager to get back "home".

Sincerely,



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(Rec'd 11/28/45) OCT 25 1945

Chengtu,

Comments from Ginling College, on the report of the Chinese Planning Commission for Christian Higher Education in China.

(Note: These comments have been written after thorough consultation with the Faculty Executive Committee and other members of the faculty, and represent faculty opinion as fully as any one statement can do for a group of people).

I. General. See B of Section II of report on Education of Women.

This statement provides for a) opportunities for study for women, b) opportunities for women teachers (though it is very doubtful whether they will for some time to come have really equal opportunities in a co-educational system), and c) ~~for~~ some special consideration to be given to types of study especially suited to women. Even if these three can be made fully adequate in a co-educational system there are at least two other needs which such a system cannot at present provide for as well as the independent women's college can do. These are a) the training and developing of women leaders in all types of Christian and educational work. If there is no institutions of higher education for women in the whole of China it means there is no place where women students can take the lead in student life and there is no place where women faculty can themselves plan and carry out and administer and thus grow in experience and leadership. We believe the history of the women's colleges so far bears out the contention that greater independence and leadership is thus secured. Moreover it will be very difficult in the present conditions obtaining in China to have any co-educational set-up in which women have a really fair chance. The number of men is bound to be more than the number of women students, and on the faculty there will be an even greater predominance of men. This is unavoidable, even with the fullest desire to strengthen the women faculty, because there are not enough women qualified for college teaching to spread over all these institutions and have more than a small sprinkling in each place. It ~~se~~ seems for the present much better to concentrate them in an institution where they will find full scope for their abilities and where the influence of women can make itself felt. b) The other need which cannot be met as well in the co-educational system at present is character building and personal influence of faculty on students. In the main this type of work for women students must be done by women faculty, and in the co-educational institution their numbers are too small to allow sufficient opportunity for close personal contacts. Even with the men students the larger universities have in many cases made very little use of the so-called "tutor system" (a personal faculty adviser for each student) and they could not do it adequately for women in any case. Every student at Ginling is one of a group of 12-15 with a faculty "tutor" or adviser, and is thus assured of this contact in addition to whatever others may come about through other relationships.

It is not only within the individual institutions that the influence of women will be largely lost, but also in the larger field of planning and policies of the Council of Higher Education. This body is envisaged as having more power and more responsibility in the future and if the education of women is to have proper attention in these plans, and the possible contributions of women to the whole field of Christian Higher Education is to be realized, there should certainly be some women on this Council. But the only women on the Council in the past, with the single exception of Miss Priest, have been those representing Hwanan and Ginling. With only three representatives altogether, one of whom is a member of the Board of Directors and one the President of the institutions there is no likelihood at all that any of the co-educational institutions will select a woman

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as its third representative. Women will not for a long time to come be holding important administrative positions in these institutions and it will mean that the whole program of higher education will be planned and administered by men, with the possible exception of one or two co-opted women members.

The higher education of women in China has made great progress in the last thirty years, but it is still, numerically at least, far behind that of men. It was the Christian movement which pioneered in opening opportunities for women and it seems altogether suitable that we should continue to be pioneers in this field. If we do not maintain a separate institution for women there will not be even one in China, for this is a field in which no one else shows any interest at present. It is true that in England there are no such independent women's colleges, but the English system is such that women's colleges at Oxford, Cambridge and London are genuinely academic as well as living units, and since most of their faculty members are women it does ensure that some women will be appointed to good academic positions and have some administrative influence on university life. Such independence and responsibility is not possible under the Chinese system where the living unit has no academic aspect and therefore the "Oxford plan" does not fit the Chinese system. It would be an interesting subject for research whether the opportunity afforded to women in the English and American types of education is not in some measure responsible for their active share in the nations' life. On the continent so far as we know, there are no such special conditions.

II. Comments on Specific Plans for Ginling in Section IV.

A. Union with University of Nanking, as in first proposal.

Academically this plan removes from Ginling 6 of its present 16 departments, including the third, fourth and fifth in size. Also it divides sociology from social service. Sociology is our largest department and has been for many years, and is a regular sociology major, with emphasis on training for social service, and is much larger than the corresponding department at the University of Nanking. It is not clear how this separation would be worked out, nor what effect it would have on our department. What is left as a "woman's college" is academically just odds and ends with no relation to each other. To have colleges of Arts, Science, Agriculture and Women is illogical and it seems impossible to find any academic name for such an assortment as is left. This was doubtless done for the purpose of keeping the Ginling name and leaving a group of departments in which women faculty would predominate, and thus keep some continuity for the present Ginling. But it seems that very little of its character is maintained and that little at the expense of an arrangement which has little else to be said for it. The financial "independence" of the woman's college would simply mean that the financial assets of Ginling would be available for the support of the women's residences and women faculty for a greatly enlarged group of women, belonging to the University of Nanking. How much of the present support of Ginling would continue to be available for such an institution is a question.

In such a plan we should in all probability in actual practice have very little influence on the university as a whole. There would be one woman dean out of four, representing a "college" which would probably not have very high academic standing in the viewpoint of the other colleges. While in theory the commission seems to envisage a union in which each group would have its share in the final arrangements, it seems unlikely

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it seems unlikely that there would be much chance for Ginling ways and ideas to be accepted. The two institutions differ in a number of respects and past experience indicates that most of the adjustments would have to be made by Ginling.

The report as written seems to imply that when union is brought about it is taken for granted that the university departments continue, with their department heads becoming the heads of the joint departments, and such of our faculty retained as the university administration approves. This would be a most unfair basis of union. However, in conversation with Dr. Fenn it was found that this is not quite what the commission had in mind, as this description refers to the working of the plan after the union has been completed, and they have not considered the method of bringing about the union. There should in theory be an equal opportunity for both departments in the composition of the new joint department, but again in practice this would be difficult to obtain.

B. The Alternative Plan.

This alternative, recommended by the commission, seems to have nothing at all to be said for it. The independent women's college here pictured could not possibly maintain any prestige nor any real academic standards. It would soon degenerate into a small and unimportant finishing school. It could at most be recognized as one "Yuen" by the Ministry of Education and one Yuen by itself in the Chinese system would be an institution with no standing at all. Also the New York Regents would probably not continue their charter to such an institution, and its degree would have little value either in China or America. It would be far better and more dignified for Ginling to close entirely than to carry on that way.

III. Other Considerations.

This plan of the commission was made with the idea that any worthwhile degree of cooperation between independent institutions is impracticable and also that any sort of federation which leaves each unit intact is also impracticable. It is probably true that at the present time the degree of cooperation which can be obtained between the University of Nanking and Ginling is not very great. It is more possible in some departments than in others, but unless the two administrations push it very definitely it will not succeed very far. One of the difficulties in the past and which would almost surely continue into the future is that Ginling is, on the whole, more willing to cooperate than is the University. The result of this fact is that we definitely plan to send our students to the University for certain courses, while in the main they do not plan for it and do it only in emergencies, or for occasional electives that a few students happen to want. That in turn results in our sending a larger number of students to them than they send to us. In recent years, with the pressure of the war situation and the very large number of courses which must now be offered in each department to meet the requirements of the present curriculum, there has been a much greater degree of reciprocity in the exchange of students. In fact in the spring of 1945 they sent more students to us than we to them, though the number of courses in which they enrolled was fewer. The figures for that term are :

	No. of Students	Courses	Credits
Ginling to U. N.	119	35	312
Nanking to Ginling	145	24	379

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Ginling College Comments, page 4

The fact that with three other universities on this campus to choose from students from the University of Nanking registered in 24 different courses at Ginling in one term shows clearly that Ginling, even on its present depleted war-time program, is able to hold its own in a cooperative scheme and to offer courses, which both in variety and standard meet the needs of the university students. If something like this degree of cooperation could be continued the saving in faculty would be considerable. These 59 courses in which we cooperated last term would represent the teaching time of something like 20 teachers. We do believe in the principle of this type of cooperation and if it could be tried with the full support of both administrations, including the deans of colleges, we believe it could be developed on a permanent and mutually beneficial basis. On the other hand without the sincere support of the administrations, such cooperation will probably rapidly decrease if the funds available make it possible to build up separate and self-sufficient departments.

In any case, it should be possible to work out plans for cooperation on library and other equipment so that journals, advanced reference books and apparatus used for advanced or research work could be jointly used. We shall be in a good position to do that when both institutions are needing much new equipment, and at this time the financial pressure will probably be sufficient to force some degree of joint planning, which will then probably be able to continue. At the very least we can count on a certain amount of cooperation which would benefit both institutions and reduce their expenses somewhat.

If it be admitted that the total amount of cooperation, at least for the immediate future is likely to be small, then the question to be faced is whether it is sufficiently important for the Christian educational program to maintain its leadership in the field of women's education to warrant the support of a separate institution for women. We believe it is. We are aware that there are at least two important difficulties to be reckoned with if such a plan is to succeed. One is that of financial support. If the larger co-educational institutions are to have first priority on all funds collected jointly, it is likely to mean that there will not be sufficient left to maintain a women's college that will be really strong. However, it should be remembered that a considerable part of Ginling's support in the past, and probably also that of Hwanan, has come from sources primarily interested in a women's institution and would probably fall off if these institutions were merged into co-educational ones. On the other hand, if the separate institution for women is continued it seems possible that other women's colleges in America and perhaps in England might be enlisted as supporters, and some other sources of support developed that are primarily interested in women's education. If this should occur it would largely answer the financial part of the problem. The other main difficulty is in maintaining a strong faculty of women, with enough permanence to give character and stability to the college. This is of course always more difficult than in a men's institution, but should become easier as the number of Chinese women prepared for this kind of work increases.

In the meeting of the Council of Higher Education held here recently, the Ginling representatives felt that the whole question of women's higher education has not been sufficiently studied in China, and in particular that in the work of the three planning commissions in England, America and China, it has not received the attention it deserves. In particular the thinking of all these groups seems to have been too much dominated by the fact that both the women's colleges now in existence happen to be located in the same city with a larger co-educational institution, and the whole question has been thought of more from the point of view of the relationship of these two pairs of in-

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stitutions than from that of the place of women's education in the Christian educational program. Particularly in Nanking, the desire to make Nanking one of the main centers, and therefore to strengthen it, has quite naturally led to consideration of pooling all the resources in Nanking in that one institution. But this geographical accident should not obscure the larger question. We wonder, for example, whether any consideration has been given to the possibility of combining the two women's colleges into one strong one, instead of combining each of them with a men's institution. It has even been suggested that such an institution need not necessarily continue in Nanking, if it is felt unwise to have a smaller one under the shadow of the larger one.

To sum up, the main point which we wish to stress is that we feel a more thorough study should be made both in China and elsewhere, before the final decision is made. The Council of Higher Education agreed to this idea and voted to appoint a commission here in China to make this study and report a year later. We should therefore, in conclusion, like to urge that no final and irrevocable decision be made until there has been time for this study. It will not make any serious difference to any future plan if we return to Nanking and continue for another year as we are, and then whatever the final decision may be, everyone concerned will feel better satisfied that it has not been made too hastily.

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Ginling College
150 Fifth Avenue
New York 11, N.Y.
October 27, 1945

Miss Ruth Chester
Ginling College
Chengtou, Szechwan, China

Dear Ruth:

Catharine Sutherland. We are glad to know that Catharine is on her way home. I earnestly hope that she is not long delayed in India. Her family are very happy to know that she is coming home. I hope that her health will not be so bad that it will rob them of all the joy of her return.

It is good to know that Evelyn Walmsley is at last in Chengtu. She and Wu Mao-i will help to lighten loads for this last refugee year. I wish that I could say that Stella were on her way, but I assure you that she will start as soon as we make the necessary arrangements.

I'll talk over with Dr. Wu the matter of a Barbour Scholarship for Hu Shih-tsang. I know that Dr. Wu has had this on her mind, and I think that she is planning to do something about it when she goes out to Michigan on a visit about the first of November. I am sure that, whether Miss Hu finishes the year's teaching at Ginling or not, it will be wiser to make plans for her beginning with the fall, rather than the spring term, of 1946. I'll keep you posted, of course.

Thank you for the explanations about scholarships. I hope that the girls receiving the Winter scholarship are writing to Mrs. Winter occasionally, as that seems to be important to her and to please her.

Your cable about Founders' Day was duly received. We are glad to know definitely the day that you are celebrating, and we are making plans for a suitable observation of the day here. I hope that having Dr. Wu here at the time of Ginling's 30th Anniversary will make it possible for us to establish some profitable contacts for the College.

\$200 for Student Aid. Ginling has recently received a special gift of \$200 to be used for student relief. It was given to Djang Shui-gi by a man in Chicago "to help some Chinese student." Miss Djang offered it to Hung Dah-ling, but Miss Hung said she wanted it used in China, so she gave it to us for "student relief" at Ginling. Dr. Wu says to use it for extra food. The money has gone through the regular channels and you should have had word from Miss Priest already. Mr. Evans wrote her some time ago. This is just by way of a statement from this office.

Dr. Wu is writing you her personal plans, and will tell you about herself. I am happy to say that she really seems very well. I am sure these weeks of rest have been exceedingly good for her.

You are much in our thoughts as you face the very difficult problems of this last year in West China. I know that in many ways the first year of peace is going to be more of a strain than the war years, but at least it will be hope that marches with you on the homeward move in place of the uncertainty and desperation that were companions on the trek outward.

Thank you again for all the facts, figures and general information you send us.

Warmest greetings to all.

Affectionately,

CSM:ef

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Ginling College
150 Fifth Avenue
New York 11, N.Y.
October 27, 1945

Miss Ruth Chester
Ginling College
Chengtu, Szechwan, China

Dear Ruth:

Your letter of September 27th, with the suggestions from the foreign faculty of Ginling enclosed, arrived on October 18th, which was remarkably quick. The letter from Nelson Liu, dated September 20th, giving the views of the non-alumnae faculty, and the one signed by the alumnae faculty, under date of September 21st, also arrived on October 18th.

These letters, giving so clearly and definitely the views of all of these groups, are most valuable and we greatly appreciate the time and thoughtful work that they represent. I am also very grateful to you for your comments and explanations of the general situation.

I wish that you could have shared in several long heart-to-heart talks that Dr. Wu and I have had recently. It is difficult, indeed almost impossible, to put on paper all that could be brought out in conversation. However, I shall attempt to state the position of the Planning Committee, the United Board and the Ginling Board of Founders, as we understand it. I say "the position" advisedly, as there is no basic difference of opinion among these three groups, which of course, are overlapping to a certain extent.

The Planning Committee's statement is in the form of a suggestion, with at least two qualifying phrases in it, thus making the whole very tentative. You will note that it reads: "At Nanking, the University of Nanking and Ginling College, should, if feasible, be located on near-by sites with maximum coordination of their facilities and educational programs. We welcome the suggestion of the British Planning Committee that consideration be given to a scheme.....etc." This indicates that the Planning Committee itself felt that this particular situation needs still further study before final recommendation can be made. Even if the statement from the Planning Committee had been a definite one, with no qualifications, it must always be remembered that no real authority lay behind it. That body can only state the results of its deliberations. It has no power to enforce them. That final decision resides in the administrative Boards on the field.

The United Board has no authority to alter the independent status of any of the colleges without the consent of the governing bodies of the institution concerned, so there is no use to say anything more about the effect of the new organization on Ginling. It is interesting to add, however, that Dr. Eric North, Chairman of the United Board, has said without qualification that he supports an independent woman's college, i.e. Ginling.

You have had the minutes of the meeting of the Ginling Board of Founders of November 12, 1945, showing that the Board of Founders have placed themselves squarely behind a woman's college and pledged their "continued and increasing financial support" to Ginling. This action was reaffirmed at a meeting on June 28, 1945, and still represents the opinion of the Board. Naturally financial considerations will have an important place in final decisions. As plans are now being made for the return of the colleges to their home campuses, it must be borne in mind that such reestablishment must be regarded as an ad interim measure, not as a final step, superseding the recommendations of the American Planning Committee and the Planning Commission in China. Decision on permanent plans will be governed by the amount of funds available and by the measure of cooperation deemed necessary. The chief concern in all the deliberations in America has been to conserve any constructive and valuable program that is being offered in China, and at the same time to present a plan that will win the whole-

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Miss Ruth Chester

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October 27, 1945

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hearted support of those to whom we appeal for funds.

This gives you the formal actions and informally expressed opinions of the groups in America definitely concerned with and responsible for Ginling. It is indeed most unfortunate that unfounded rumors have been circulated and that so much misunderstanding has resulted.

The report that the Planning Commission in China has presented to the Council of Higher Education has just been received in New York. It takes a more definite stand on the whole matter of women's education than the American Planning Committee recorded, and recommends an even more thorough-going coordination between Nanking and Ginling than is sponsored in America.

Cordially yours,

CSM:ef

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Ginling College
Chengtu, China
Oct. 31, 1945.

Dear Cornelia:

I have just finished a rather hasty summary of the news we have had so far from Nanking. I'm not sure I got it all in, but I think the main things are there, anyhow. I wrote it in that form so I could also send a copy to the London office. As you will see, and also know from the cable I sent Dr. Wu yesterday, I am hoping to get off to Nanking very soon for a visit. I shall have to go to Chungking first, which I would have to do anyway, it seems, since I lost my passport 2½ weeks ago. One must apply in person for a replacement and there is now no representative in Chengtu, so that's that. I had decided anyway that I couldn't wangle the down-river trip from here. So I am going to Chungking as soon as possible, by air if I can, and if not then by bus. The Embassy wrote that they would give me the priority certificate to fly to Shanghai, so I think that is fairly sure. I may get delayed by the passport, but hope I can get some sort of temporary paper. So if all goes well I should be in Nanking soon after the middle of November. I plan to stay about two weeks and then fly back, direct if I can, and via Shanghai and Chungking if necessary. I'm very excited over the prospect and hope I shall not be disappointed.

At present we are enjoying almost a surfeit of lectures from important visitors. Dr. Quentin Pan is here from Tsing Hwa and he is very interesting they say, though I cannot confirm it first hand, as I have not yet heard him. Prof. and Mrs. Roxby of the British Council are here, having been here nearly two weeks now. They are both lecturing, partly to small groups in special lines and partly general ones. His field is Geography, with emphasis on human geography and hers is history, so they make a good team. They are delightful people and we are enjoying them personally also. We had them for dinner the first week they were here, with our history and geography faculty and then on Monday night we had them for a simple supper preceding an informal discussion with the whole faculty. That was a very good evening and people asked questions and I think it was enjoyed by all. Dr. and Mrs. Needham are also here for a few days on their way back from the north, and we are having them for tea this afternoon.

There is a proposal to shorten the year's work even more drastically than the original plan, but I don't know what the outcome will be. Some think we should finish in April so as to move before hot weather comes. It will not affect this term anyhow.

Mr. Walline has a discouraging report from Chungking as to prospects of other missionaries returning in the near future which makes me doubt if Stella can get here soon enough to be of any use. As you know our second term is beginning Jan. 14th, actual classes, and it will be shortened considerably, so unless she can be here quite surely near the beginning of the term it will not

be worth while for her to come to Chengtu. It would be a pity for her to take the long expensive trip via India only to get here about in time to start another long and difficult trip down river. It would be better to come back to Shanghai in the summer. Stella would not be of any use in Nanking earlier, but Harriet Whitmen would.

I have just heard there may be a chance of my getting off to Chungking day after tomorrow by plane, but I hardly dare hope for it. I hope to send you student statistics in this letter, but they may not be ready. Sincerely, Ruth

1277

Summary of Reports Received from Nanking

I. Regarding Property.

After the Japanese moved out the Chinese 6th route army moved in, on Sept. 24th. On 25th they began moving our truckloads of furniture etc. and our faculty members there appealed to General Liao, who stopped it immediately, and also moved out the army and returned the property to our care on the night of the 26th. A considerable amount was moved before it got stopped but they hope some may be returned later. They immediately got watchmen on duty and did everything possible to protect what was left. Some of our group actually moved in on Oct. 14th, including Mrs Tsen and Blanche Wu. They are living in "400" one of the student dormitories.

Buildings externally look all right, except that the recitation building has a sort of porch with roof, from which a cement stairway goes up to the ridge of the roof where a watch-tower was located. Internally "600" has suffered most with all the internal partitions removed. I believe this has also been done in some other buildings, and some additional partitions added. One letter said "They made big rooms into small ones and small ones into big ones". All metal fixtures such as door knobs, locks, etc are gone, walls have holes, windows no glads, etc. and everything very dirty. There seems to be a large amount of minor damage but no major structural damage except to interior partitions

New buildings. They have added a large number of new buildings of wooden construction, indicated on enclosed map, and have also completed the partly built faculty house - according to their plan, not ours, but we have no details as to what it is like. They report that the material in these buildings can be sold to advantage if sold soon, and that is one reason for my proposed trip to Nanking to help make some of these decisions.

Grounds. Trees seem to have survived surprisingly well from the pictures and also from letters. Gardens and lawns are of course mostly gone and covered with buildings, but they are more easily replaced than trees. Main entrance gate is on Ninghai Rd. facing Purple Mt. and is quite good looking, in a red brick wall which extends about half way round - all of the East side and a large part of the South side and a little on the North. A motor road runs between the Chapel building and the science building, up to the faculty houses on the South Hill, and there is a well built dug-out in the side of the hill near Miss Spicer's house. A fine tall flag-pole is another acquisition.

Furniture and Equipment In the main our furniture is gone, but there is a fair amount of Japanese furniture there, some of which can be used at least temporarily. Chapel pews, science lecture hall chairs are still there. Library tables were used as dining tables but are still there, and most of the library shelves are still there. Three or four pianos (reports disagree) are also there or where they can be returned. Japanese beds (cheap iron ones) benches, tables etc., apparently in considerable quantity. No scientific equipment at all.

Power plant, pump and central heating plant boiler are missing. Nothing said about piping, radiators etc. Recent letter says they are getting people from city water and electric companies to repair and reconnect us, so I think wiring and water pipes must be nearly intact, and city service O.K. Probably it will not be necessary to replace light plant and pump etc.

Library. About 30,000 of our books (approximately half of the former library) have been found and repurchased from various second hand stores and are being sorted. They hope they may be able to find more as they have time for more

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thorough search. So far we have no idea what books are reclaimed.

Repair work, Prices, etc. Prices in Nanking at present considerably lower than here, but rapidly rising as communications improve, so that they will soon be very similar to ours. Contractors find it impossible to make estimates both because of rapidly changing prices and also because many kinds of material are not available at the moment and they have no idea what the price will be when they are available. We should sell quickly what we want to sell, as they will bring more now than later when other materials are more available. It will take several months to put things in order at best. Mrs Tsen says if we want things ready by summer someone should go down at once and make decisions and get things started. Miss Chester is planning to go within a few days.

II. Present Work in Nanking.

In order to protect the buildings and to prevent future occupation they have started a small middle school. This was due to open on the 20th of Oct. and we have no definite word how many students they have. 180 took the entrance tests, but we think the number actually enrolled is considerable smaller. It is mainly a day school though a few whose homes are far away will be boarders. Fees are relatively high, as they are planning for it to be self-supporting. Blanch Wu is principle, Hwang Li-ming Treasurer and Dean of Discipline, Mrs. Tsen business manager and these and others are doing the teaching.

Renting of Buildings. Faculty residences across the street from the present campus have been rented for a year at \$10,000 C.N.C. per month and they are planning to rent the faculty residences on the south hill.

III. Plans for return. These can hardly be called plans as yet, but we are definitely shortening the present school year so as to be finished in April or May and thus able to start moving before hot weather sets in. This will also give time for getting things in shape for the fall term. At present travel is very difficult and very expensive, but a few people are going even entirely private individuals and families. The U.S. Embassy issues priority certificates for Americans and perhaps for some others, to travel by army transport planes, if they have urgent business and cannot get other means of going soon enough. I wrote to them and received a reply which assures me of such a priority certificate if I call at the embassy and ask for it, so I am going to Chungking as soon as I can. I shall fly to Shanghai and then go up from there by train to Nanking. I plan to stay about two weeks and hope I may be lucky enough to get a return trip directly from Nanking to Chengtu, but there is no assurance of that. I hope not to be away more than a month.

Airmail letters come through in good time, sometimes only 5 or 6 days, but are irregular, some being much quicker than others.

Other News

Founders Day plans. The date has been set rather late this year, Nov. 24 and 25. On Saturday afternoon we plan a tea reception to faculty of other universities on this campus and other friends of the college, and alumnae, in honor of the 30th anniversary and also because it is our last Founders Day in Chengtu. The usual "banquet" will be omitted because there is no place where it can be held. The larger number of students this year already fills the space and leave no room for faculty and guests. In the evening we plan for a series of Nanking and Ginling moving pictures, which the present students have not seen and which they will be especially interested in this year. There will also be some brief historical sketches to go with the pictures. This program will take less work and involve fewer people than the usual type of thing, which seemed advisable because of a program being put on the previous week and also the shortened term which will make everyone more busy.

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Shanghai - Dec. 5, 1945. [17]

Dear Corneha:

Dr. Winfield is flying home from here so to a chance to get a quick letter to you, though I've not much to say except that I am in Shanghai. I finally got my passport after 3 weeks waiting & flew down yesterday. I didn't get out here till about 11:30 & couldn't find the right house. After I had found one a door with no answer & had gone off to try another, a light came on & I went back & was I glad to hear Pheme's voice! He has also been able to give me advice on all the little tricks about the trip to Hanking. I'm going there Friday the 7th & hope to stay about 10 days or a little more if I can go back to Chungking from there instead of coming back here. The long delay in Chungking shortens my trip & also makes me late getting back but I hated to give it up after making the start. It seems to have been home coming to be back in Shanghai & I feel like a country cousin on a visit to the city all night. The impressions one gets are very mixed. I'm not sorted them out yet but I know I'm mighty glad to be here.

I've not much news from Chungking. Founders Day went off well, they said, with a big tea in the afternoon to entertain people from other universities & our own program in the evening. It was reported to me that the Chungking Chemung had raised about \$3,000,000 for the 30th birthday fund & reports from other branches are not yet in. Chungking is hoping to raise about \$5,000,000 but they are finding it rather hard going. It was bad times for raising money & I think the Chungking group has done remarkably well & they have worked hard, I know. They will be writing you in more detail but since this will reach you much sooner I thought I'd tell what I

can. They intend it for endowment, I believe. ^{12/5/46} [21] Of course money
value is so low it is not really a huge amount but it is worth a lot
in its indication of the spirit of the group. I think the final total of their
30th birthday gift will be well over \$10,000,000 surely & maybe a
good bit more — say at least \$10,000.

If this arrives before Dr. Wu leaves, tell her I'll leave a letter for her
either here or in Hankow after I know more about the problems & how
things look to me. It's tantalizing to miss her by just a few days, but I
suppose I shall. If I have to come back to Shanghai I shall leave
here the 19th at the latest. I suppose she might be here by then but I
doubt it. Tell her if she should get here before then to phone Mrs. Hill
can, 18 Route Winking phone 70279 & find out my plans, for I shall
let her know whether I'm returning via Shanghai or not. I'd better make
a note of that phone number, as there's no new directory yet.

I was sick most of the time in Chungking so I didn't do very much. I'm not
100% recovered yet, but am counting on the change of climate to finish
the job. There's so little heat anywhere these days that it's hard to keep
warm & I keep getting more cold before I finish the last one!

I suppose no other letter will reach you before Christmas so this
brings my Christmas Greetings. I find it hard to realize it's less
than 3 weeks till Christmas. I hope nothing goes wrong with my return
plans for I'd hate not to get back for Christmas. I hope to fly from
Chungking to Chong on the 21st.

Affectionately,

Paul.

Ginling College
150 Fifth Avenue
New York 11, N. Y.
December 10, 1945

Miss Ruth Chester
Ginling College
Chengtu, Szechwan, China

Dear Ruth:

Regents Statistics. Your good letter of October 13th, with information for the Regents reports enclosed, reached us quite promptly, and should have been acknowledged before this. Too many meetings! We are grateful for the statistics, and are happy to have the Regents reports all made out and properly signed by Dr. Wu and off our minds for another year.

Reports from Nanking. We were very glad to get the word you sent us about the campus in Nanking. We have also had a report from Bill Fenn after his recent visit there. His account was not too encouraging, but perhaps we should be grateful that there is anything at all left. We were very happy to have the cable saying that you were in Chungking on your way to Nanking, for I know that it will be of the greatest value to the College to have you in Nanking for a while, not to mention the joy and satisfaction your visit will be to the Ginling group in the city. I shall be most eager to get your report and hope that you were not too depressed by what you found.

Dr. Wu. Dr. Wu's plans are still not certain. She sent a cable one day this week, offering two possible dates for her return and she will not make her final decision until she has an answer from the College in Chengtu. She has just phoned me to say that she is sending you a letter, explaining her cable more fully, so I will not go into those details here.

I fully realize how important it is for her to get back to Chengtu as plans are being made for the return to Nanking, but I also know that her presence in America is exceedingly valuable as important decisions about the future of Ginling are being made. More of that later.

Dr. Wu wants to go to Nanking on her way to Chengtu and that, of course, would be most valuable to the College. I am afraid there is no possibility of her visit coinciding with yours.

Stella. You will be glad to know that Stella at last has her passport and we hope to get passage for her very soon. I cannot say now whether she will go first to Shanghai or straight to India and in. Mr. Evans and Dr. Wu both seem to feel that the Shanghai route will be quicker and more direct. Stella is now in California, and I do not know whether she will come east again or not. It will depend on what passage we secure for her.

Founders' Day. On November 28th, there was a meeting of the Ginling Committee, which takes the place of the Board of Founders in the new United Board. The business meeting occupied the morning. Then we had luncheon together, and in the afternoon, there was a special service of worship and dedication as a 30th Anniversary celebration. Mrs. Roys prepared a very beautiful service, and Dr. Wu and Mrs. Thurston both spoke briefly. It was a very rainy afternoon and the attendance was small, but the spirit was fine and many people have spoken of how much such a service meant. Mrs. Thurston and Dr. Cora Reeves were both here for the day, as was also Grace Chu, Mrs. New and Mrs. T. F. Tsiang are both in the city and a number of other Ginling graduates were present at the service and so it was a very fine family gathering. We have sent you, by ordinary five-cent postage, a copy of the service that Mrs. Roys prepared.

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December 10, 1945

We were happy to have the cable of greetings on the 30th Anniversary from the Ginling alumnae. This cable was read to the meeting on the 28th. Dr. Wu had also had the cable felling of the \$10,000,000 endowment fund raised by the Ginling alumnae for the 30th Anniversary, and this information, too, was given to the Committee on the 28th. I wish you could have been there to see the joy that this cable brought and to have felt the tremendous admiration of the Committee for the courage and hard work that raising such a fund represented. A minute of appreciation was entered in the records. I hope that the cable I sent from the Committee reached you in time for your celebrations on the 25th.

Consideration of Plans for the Future. At the meeting of the Committee in the morning, Dr. Wu made a masterly statement on the position of Ginling in the total educational program in China. She related the report of the Planning Committee in America and that of the Planning Commission in China to the place of Ginling and its contribution and came to the conclusions that found unanimous support in the Committee as a whole. I do not need to say to you what those conclusions were. When she had finished, there was silence for a few moments, and then one of the women present said, "There really is no room for discussion as we are all in such perfect agreement with Dr. Wu." I have not yet written up the minutes of that meeting, but when they reach you you will see that the Ginling Committee has again taken a strong action supporting Ginling as an independent College.

In your letter of October 13th, you say, "I shall be sending you in a few days our Ginling comments on the recommendations of that Planning Commission which we do not like." I think that I can safely say to you that the recommendations of the Planning Commission in China on the matter of women's education did not meet with any more favorable reception in America at the recent meeting of the Planning Committee than was accorded them in the meeting of the Council of Higher Education in China. There is a Commission on Women's Education here in America, which is making a special study of this whole problem. I was interested to see that the Council of Higher Education had appointed a Committee to study the problem of women's education. When these two special groups have brought in their reports, perhaps there will be a different slant to the recommendations of the Planning Commission. At the meeting of the Planning Committee here in New York on December 1st, there was very little discussion of the problem of women's education, as the general feeling was that such discussion should wait until the Woman's Commission had brought in its report.

I cannot tell you how happy I am to have your very fine document, embodying the recommendations of the Faculty Executive Committee and other faculty members on this total issue. Such a statement will be of the greatest value to the meetings of the Women's Commission, and also to the Planning Committee, and I assure you it will receive the most careful consideration by these bodies. All of us in the office who have read this statement feel that it is exceedingly fine in its spirit, fair in its approach and thoroughly sound in its premise. Such a document will certainly have great weight in the final decisions.

As Dr. Wu is doubtlessly explaining to you in the letter to which I have already referred, the Woman's Commission will meet in the latter part of January and the Planning Committee in March. I will keep you posted on developments as I know them.

Books. I have just written to Wu Mao-i and have told her that if you and she agree, we will duplicate the order for Chemistry books that were lost in the fire in India and send them to Nanking. It does not seem wise to send any more books to Chengtu now, but we are getting a number of boxes ready to ship to Nanking as soon as the way is open. I hope that they will be there by the time the College is ready to use them.

We have done nothing about getting the books requested by other departments, as it became evident that mailing them to Chengtu was not satisfactory. Now, however, we shall begin on these lists and get them to Nanking.

1284

Miss Ruth Chester

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December 10, 1945

Gifts for Miss Grace Chen

We have recently received two gifts of \$5.00 each for Grace Chen, Bishop Robin Chen's daughter. One is from Miss Caroline Porter, Box 2084, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and the other from Deaconess Ethel Percy, 519 N. Euclid Avenue, Ontario, California. This money will be sent through Miss Priest in the usual way that such personal gifts are handled. Of course, Miss Chen will want to write to these two friends and we have therefore included their addresses.

This will reach you long after Christmas, but it brings you my greetings for the season just the same, and my best wishes for better days in the coming year.

Affectionately yours,

CSM:ef
Via China Clipper

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Ginling College
Nanking.
Dec. 13th, 1945.

Dear Cornelia:

I'm enclosing a very hasty account of my impressions in Nanking, which I wrote in this form so I could send a copy to London too. I hope you can glean some publicity material from it, though it is useless in its present form I know. It has been a great joy to be here and does really give me the feeling that the war is over at least and there is some hope of beginning a new era. I am eager for the day when we can move back to stay, for this visit is very tantalizing. Of course it is a depressing place in many ways - more so as one stays longer, I think, but I don't quite agree with those who have called it a dead city, for I feel it is just beginning to awaken, sort of in the rubbing its eyes stage. New people are returning every day, so that one spends a lot of time receiving visitors who have just come and run over to see the campus or their friends here. How they will get any work done in the next few months I don't know.

I'm having to cut my visit short as they have changed the plane schedule to Chengtu to Tuesday instead of Friday and I have to leave here Monday instead of Thursday. I shall have only about 10 days altogether, here but it is enough to do the most important things and the visit has been well worth while, I feel. We can plan much more intelligently now. I do hope Harriet can get here soon for they need her badly. We are about giving up on Stella for next term, unless they have had some word of her since I last heard from them in Chengtu.

Chen Shin-dzung is applying for a scholarship under the Home Econ. Association, which I am supporting quite strongly. I've not had a ~~chance~~ chance to talk to Dr. Wu yet, but my idea is to prepare her to come back and be general supervisor and director of dormitories, with some others working under her. She is a very practical and business-like little thing and likes that sort of work. You know how difficult it is to get the right people for it and how much trouble they have with students unless they have academic standing. So if she has a year or two in America, and comes back for that work, together with some teaching in the Home Econ. dept I think it would be fine. I think Dr. Wu will like the idea for she had already thought of her as a business manager, which is partly the same type of work. She is a chemistry major and is now teaching in that department, but her real abilities lie in the practical line rather than in academic work, and we do not feel she is enough of a student to do very much in graduate work in chemistry. I hope very much that she can get this chance and prepare herself for this kind of work.

I wish I could wait here for Dr. Wu, but will try to write out some of my ideas for her and we can discuss them further after she gets to Chengtu. I cannot wait, for I am already away too long for the work that is waiting there. I do hope I get the plane ticket for the 18th from Chungking to Chengtu, otherwise I shall be in serious trouble. I'm having all the wires pulled that I can think of and trust it will work. I'm flying from here on Monday and hoping to ~~rightx~~ go right on to Chengtu Tuesday.

Affectionately yours,

Ruth

1286

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